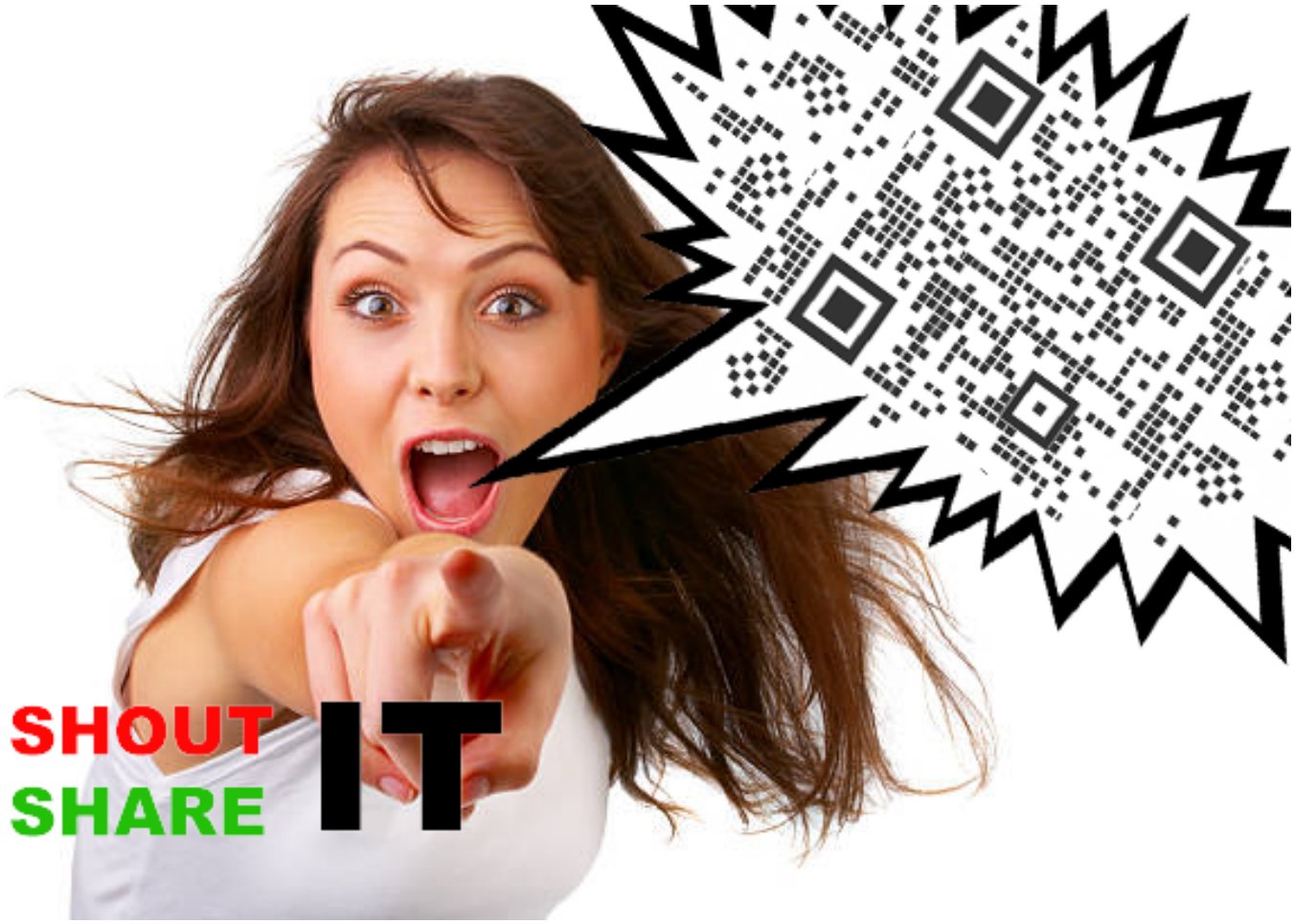
AMAR CHITRA KATHA

THE INDUS VALLEY ADVENTURE

SPECIAL ISSUE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IT

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AN EXCITING FIND

VIJAY AND DURGA HAVE COME WITH THEIR GRANDFATHER FOR A HOLIDAY. BEING AN AMATEUR ARCHAEOLOGIST, THE OLD MAN HAD BROUGHT THEM TO A SITE WHERE THE RUINS OF THE INDUS VALLEY CIVILIZATION HAD BEEN UNEARTHED RECENTLY.

O GRANDPA. ARE WE GOING TO SPEND OUR HOLIDAY IN THIS DUMP?

DUMP, INDEED! DO YOU KNOW THIS WAS A FLOURISHING CITY SOME FIVE THOUSAND YEARS AGO?

A CITY? IN THIS SAND AND DUST? I DON'T BELIEVE IT.

COME. I WILL SHOW YOU. LET US GO FURTHER UP.

LOOK THERE. CAN YOU SEE THOSE STRAIGHT ROADS CROSSING AT RIGHT ANGLES?

OH YES! IT LOOKS NEATER THAN OUR ROADS.

SEE HOW THE HOUSES HAD DRAINS FOR DIRTY WATER AND SEWERS IN THE STREETS TO CARRY IT AWAY.

LOOK! SOME OF THOSE SEWERS ARE COVERED. GOOD CIVIC SENSE INDEED!

CIVIC SENSE? WHAT DOES A KID LIKE YOU KNOW ABOUT CIVIC SENSE?

QUITE A BIT! WE WERE TAUGHT CIVICS AND HYGIENE IN SCHOOL. SO THERE!

DON'T TEASE HER, VIJAY. SHE IS RIGHT. THE PEOPLE WHO LIVED HERE WERE INDEED A CIVILISED SOCIETY.

HOW COME THEIR CITY WAS REDUCED TO RUINS?

THERE COULD HAVE BEEN VARIOUS REASONS LIKE EARTHQUAKES OR FLOODS...

...OR THEY MAY HAVE BEEN DESTROYED BY INVADERS.

WHATEVER IT WAS I LITERALLY FEEL DOWN IN THE DUMPS HERE. IT WILL BE A REALLY BORING VACATION.

SUCH RUINS CAN NEVER BE BORING. THERE ARE A THOUSAND STORIES BURIED IN HERE. EACH OBJECT MAY TURN OUT TO BE AN EXCITING DISCOVERY FOR YOU. COME, LET'S GO A LITTLE AWAY FROM HERE.

THEY MOVE AWAY FROM THE MAIN EXCAVATION. SUDDENLY—

WHAT IS SO GREAT ABOUT THIS BROKEN CLAY POT?

THIS IS NOT AN ORDINARY PIECE. IT IS AT LEAST 3,750 YEARS OLD.

WOW! THAT SOUNDS REALLY FAR BACK!

EVERYTHING HERE IS AT LEAST MORE THAN 3,000 YEARS OLD.

EVEN YOU GRANDPA?

HUP! DON'T YOU DARE CALL ME OLD. I AM MORE YOUTHFUL THAN YOUR FATHER.

GRANDPA HUMS AWAY HAPPILY, WHILE THE CHILDREN WANDER OFF.

HMMMM.

SEE! SEE I FOUND ONE MORE PIECE. IT'S PRETTIER THAN YOURS, VIJAY.

SEE GRANDPA, HOW BEAUTIFUL THE BLACK AND RED SQUARES LOOK?

YES, THESE GEOMETRIC DESIGNS WERE A SPECIALITY OF INDUS VALLEY CIVILIZATION. I AM GLAD WE CAME HERE.

WELL, I'M NOT. IT'S SO-O-O BORING AND HOT AND DUSTY.

OKAY. YOU TWO GO OFF AND PLAY. LET ME LOOK AROUND IN PEACE.

VIJAY AND DURGA RUN UP THE SLOPE OF THE MOUND WHILE GRANDPA POTTERS AROUND, PEERING AT THE GROUND.

LOOK AT HIM, HE IS REALLY HAPPY HERE.

LEAVE HIM ALONE. LET'S PLAY CATCH.

SOON THEY ARE BUSY PLAYING TAG. SUDDENLY THEY HEAR GRANDPA'S EXCITED EXCLAMATION.

AHA!

LET'S SEE WHAT HE HAS FOUND.

LOOK — WHAT I FOUND! A PAIR OF TERRACOTTA BULLOCKS.

WHAT IS IT, GRANDPA?

TERRACOTTA? WHAT IS THAT? SOUNDS LIKE MY TERECOT SHIRT.

TERRACOTTA MEANS BAKED CLAY.

SO CUTE!

HOW BEAUTIFUL IT IS. EVEN THOUGH THERE IS ONLY HALF OF IT LEFT.

I WONDER WHAT THESE BULLOCKS WERE PULLING — A CART OR A PLOUGH.

WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES IT MAKE? IT IS ONLY A TOY.

SEVERAL CARTS HAVE BEEN FOUND HERE, BUT NOT A PLOUGH. OF COURSE A MODEL OF 5,000-YEAR OLD PLOUGH HAS BEEN FOUND AT KALIBANGAN. SO A PLOUGH HERE WOULD BE AN IMPORTANT DISCOVERY.

I WANT TO BE A DISCOVERER TOO. COME, WE'LL HELP YOU SEARCH.

AFTER AN HOUR OF FRUITLESS SEARCH, THE CHILDREN'S INTEREST BEGINS TO FADE. JUST THEN—

TOOT! TOOOT!

WHAT IS IT THAT YOU FOUND, GRANDPA?

A WHISTLE!

OH! GRANDPA; GIVE IT TO ME.

I PROMISE I'LL BUY YOU A SHINY NEW WHISTLE. THIS IS IMPORTANT TO ME.

OKAY, GRANDPA! COME, DURGA, IT IS YOUR TURN TO CATCH ME!

HERE I COME!

HA HA HA! OOPS!

CRASH!

AHA!

GRANDPA! DID YOUR INDUS VALLEY PEOPLE USE BICYCLES?

DON'T BE SILLY!

HOW COULD THERE BE CYCLES THREE THOUSAND YEARS AGO?

BUT I JUST FOUND ONE BURIED HERE.

WHY DON'T YOU TAKE IT AND GO FOR A LONG RIDE. I'LL HAVE SOME PEACE AND QUIET THEN.

GOOD IDEA!

VIJAY PULLS WITH ALL HIS MIGHT.

DRAT! IT'S ONLY A HANDLEBAR, NOT A CYCLE.

ODD, ISN'T IT?

YES, I'VE NEVER SEEN ONE WITH SO MANY DIALS.

HERE! TAKE MY HANKY AND WIPE THE DIRT OFF.

OH! OH! THERE IS SOMETHING WRITTEN HERE. "TIME TRANSPORTER". IT'S A TOY!

AN ELECTRONIC TOY FROM THE INDUS VALLEY CIVILIZATION.

TIME TRANSPORTER

DON'T BE SILLY. SOME FOREIGN TOURIST MUST HAVE LOST IT HERE.

I WONDER HOW IT WORKS.

HEY! LOOK. THERE'S A CUTE LITTLE BOOK.

THE OPERATION MANUAL! YOU FOUND IT. IT DOES HELP TO HAVE A CURIOUS CAT LIKE YOU AROUND. LET'S HAVE A LOOK.

"IF YOU WISH TO TRAVEL IN TIME, FOLLOW THE STEPS IN PROPER ORDER: ...SWITCH THE TRANSPORTER 'ON'"

OKAY, HERE'S THE SWITCH. LET'S PUT IT 'ON'.

HEY! THE LIGHTS TURNED ON!

IT'S WORKING! IT'S WORKING!

NOW WHAT!... "ENTER THE YEAR YOU WISH TO TRAVEL TO IN THE YEAR INDICATOR."

OKAY, ENTERED 1990. WE DON'T WANT TO GO ANYWHERE...

"NOW ENTER THE MONTH AND THE DAY YOU WISH TO TRAVEL TO..."

WELL I WISH TO TRAVEL TO TODAY, SO I ENTER OCTOBER 21. AND NOW, THE TIME...

WHAT TIME IS IT NOW, DURGA?

FOUR FORTY-FIVE P.M., THAT'S 16·45 HOURS.

TOOT!

TOOT! TOOT!

GRANDPA DID NOT GIVE ME THAT WHISTLE, AND HE HIMSELF IS PLAYING WITH IT!

HE FOUND THAT WHISTLE ALMOST AN HOUR AGO, DIDN'T HE?

YES.

THAT MEANS AT 3·45 P.M. LET'S GO BACK TO 3·30 P.M. AND PICK UP THE WHISTLE BEFORE GRANDPA DOES!

WHAT A CRAZY IDEA. JUST LIKE YOU, VIJAY!

HUSH NOW! LET ME CONCENTRATE... THE TIME — 15:30 HOURS.

IT IS ONLY A TOY. IT CAN'T TAKE YOU BACK TO THE WHISTLE BEFORE GRANDPA.

OH, COME ON! WE ARE ONLY PRETENDING! LETS CONTINUE TO PLAY.

..."THE TIME TRANSPORTER IS NOW IN STAND-BY MODE. ALL THOSE WHO WANT TO TRAVEL IN TIME SHOULD HOLD THE HANDLE FIRMLY."

COME, DURGA! YOU HOLD THE OTHER HANDLE.

NO! I MAY GET AN ELECTRIC SHOCK.

DON'T BE STUPID! YOU ARE WEARING RUBBER-SOLED SHOES.

ALL RIGHT. I'LL TELL GRANDPA IF I GET EVEN A TEENY WEENY SHOCK!

OKAY!... " NOW PRESS THE BUTTON 'GO'."

TOOT!

READY! HERE GOES!

ZAP!

OH! OUR TOY MUST HAVE GOT BURNT!

OFF ON

990

TIME TRANSPORTER

HEY, VIJAY, WHERE HAS GRANDPA GONE?

HE WAS WORKING THERE A MOMENT AGO...

...LOOK! THERE HE IS WALKING THROUGH THE RUINS TOWARDS THIS MOUND!

HOW DID HE GET BACK THERE?

STRANGE! HE WAS WALKING EXACTLY LIKE THAT WHEN WE CAME TO THIS MOUND MORE THAN AN HOUR AGO.

MORE THAN AN HOUR AGO!

COULD IT BE...

DURGA, WHAT TIME IS IT NOW?

IT... IT... HOW CAN THAT BE? MY WATCH IS SHOWING 3·30!

THIS IS NOT A TOY, DURGA.

EH!

THE TIME TRANSPORTER IS A TIME MACHINE!

YES! WE HAVE TRAVELLED BACK IN TIME BY ONE HOUR FIFTEEN MINUTES.

OH! WHAT DO WE DO NOW?

WE RUSH DOWN AND DIG OUT THAT WHISTLE BEFORE GRANDPA DOES.

COME QUICKLY, DURGA!

THE WHISTLE WAS FOUND HERE!

AHA! HERE IT IS!

LET'S GET BACK UP THERE!

BACK TO OUR OWN TIME! IT WAS 16·45 HOURS WHEN WE STARTED THIS TEST. TEN MORE MINUTES HAVE PASSED BY. LET'S GO TO 16·55 P.M.

ZAP!

HERE WE ARE, BACK IN OUR OWN TIME.

LOOK, GRANDPA SEEMS WORRIED!

WE KNOW WHY, DON'T WE?

I'LL HIDE THE TIME TRANS-PORTER AND GO DOWN TO GRANDPA.

SOMETHING WRONG, GRANDPA?

YES! A STRANGE THING HAPPENED.

REMEMBER, VIJAY, I FOUND A CLAY WHISTLE?

YES!

THAT TERRACOTTA WHISTLE?

OH, YES!

YOU HAD ASKED FOR IT.

YES!

AND I DIDN'T GIVE IT?

THAT'S RIGHT.

IT IS LOST!

BUT HOW?

I DON'T KNOW! IT JUST VANISHED.

LET IT BE, GRANDPA, IT WAS JUST A CLAY WHISTLE.

BUT, VIJAY, IT WASN'T AN ORDINARY WHISTLE. IT WAS...

AT LEAST 3,000 YEARS OLD!

EXACTLY! AND YOU DON'T FIND OBJECTS OF THAT PERIOD EASILY.

GRANDPA! WE WILL HELP FIND MANY OTHER OBJECTS.

THANK YOU, CHILD. MAY BE YOUR SHARP EYES WILL HELP ME FIND SOMETHING.

DON'T WORRY, GRANDPA, WE WILL SURELY FIND YOU SOMETHING.

NICE TO HEAR YOU SAY THAT, VIJAY. BUT NOW LET'S GO BACK TO THE GUEST HOUSE. IT'S GETTING LATE!

WHAT KIND OF OBJECTS DO YOU KEEP LOOKING FOR, GRANDPA?

OH, ANYTHING THAT CAN THROW MORE LIGHT ON THE PERIOD—TOYS, SEALS, TOOLS, FIGURINES... ANYTHING...

HEY! WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

TO PICK UP THE TI...

TO PICK UP THE BICYCLE HANDLE. I WILL BE BORED WITHOUT IT.

GO AHEAD, GRANDPA! WE ARE FOLLOW-ING YOU.

?

IN THE GUEST HOUSE—

VIJAY, DURGA! COME ON, CHEER UP!

FIRE CRACKERS!

GIVE US SOME MORE, GRANDPA!

OH, NO. I'LL GIVE THE REST ON THE DIWALI NIGHT.

AW, GRANDPA!

NOW GO TO YOUR ROOM. I HAVE TO WRITE MY NOTES.

IN THE GHILDREN'S ROOM—

IF WE GO TO THE INDUS VALLEY CIVILIZATION, WE CAN BRING A LOT OF THINGS FOR GRANDPA, EH?

?

POOR GRANDPA! HE WORKS SO HARD, AND STILL FINDS NOTHING USEFUL.

AND LOSES WHAT HE DOES FIND. THANKS TO YOU!

WELL! THANKS TO ME, HE WILL FIND MANY MORE THINGS.

?

SHALL WE GO?

WITH YOUR TIME TRANSPORTER?

HOW ELSE?

I'M SCARED!

WHY?

WE'VE GONE BACK IN TIME BEFORE! NOTHING WENT WRONG THEN!

BUT WE HAD GONE BACK BY ONLY AN HOUR AND FIFTEEN MINUTES. THIS TIME HOW FAR WILL YOU GO BACK, VIJAY?

NOT TOO FAR, NOT CRORES OF YEARS. WE WILL GO BACK ONLY BY 3,990 YEARS...

...TO 2,000 B.C., TO THE INDUS VALLEY CIVILIZATION.

NO!

IF YOU ARE NOT COMING, DURGA, I WILL GO ALONE!

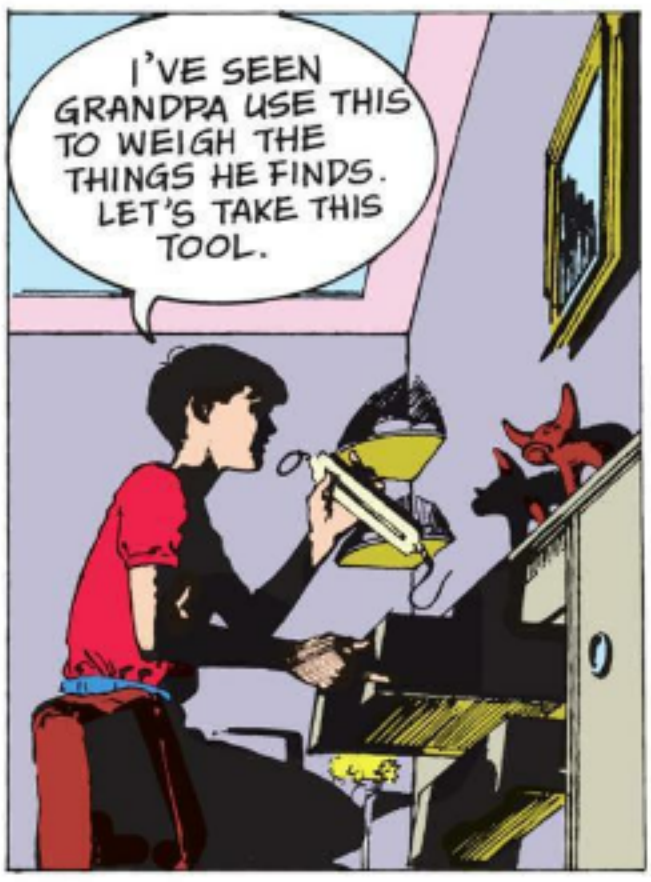
OKAY, I'LL COME. BUT LET'S TAKE A FEW THINGS WITH US.

AT MIDNIGHT—
VIJAY
SHHH!
ZZ
ZZ
Z

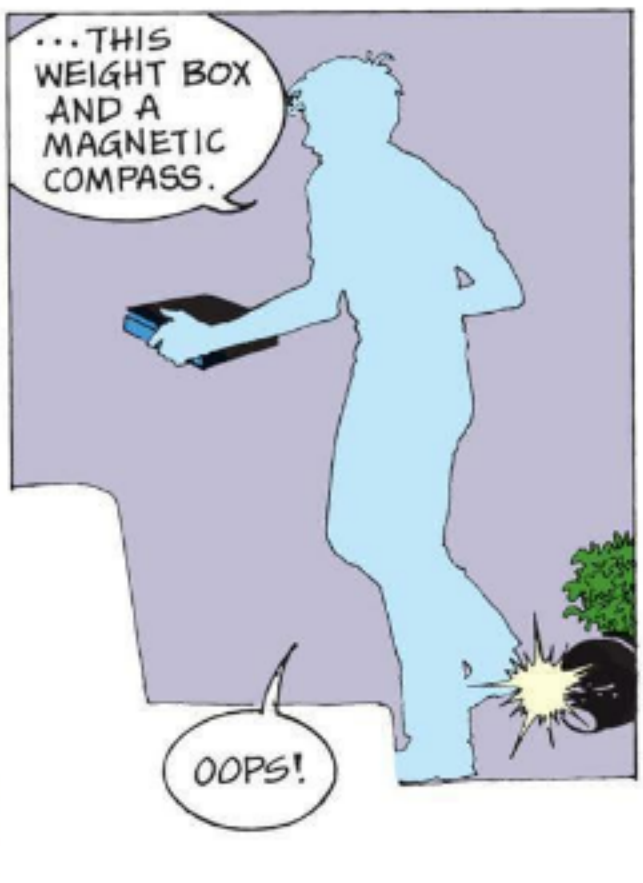
I NEED THIS BAG TO CARRY MY TIME-TRANSPORTER.
I AM TAKING THIS SHOULDER BAG.

WE SHOULD CARRY SOME CANDLES AND A BOX OF MATCHES.

ALSO A FOLDING RULER TO MEASURE LENGTHS.


I'VE SEEN GRANDPA USE THIS TO WEIGH THE THINGS HE FINDS. LET'S TAKE THIS TOOL.

WE ARE TAKING THIS SMALL BALANCE TO WEIGH SMALL OBJECTS...


...THIS WEIGHT BOX AND A MAGNETIC COMPASS.
OOPS!

MUMBLE... MUMBLE...

CLUNK!

ZZZ

GOOD! HE'S GONE TO SLEEP!

WE NEARLY WOKE...

SHHH!

BACK IN THEIR OWN ROOM—

SHALL WE GO NOW?

OKAY!

THIS IS THE YEAR 1990, EH? SO FIRST WE ENTER MINUS 1990 IN THE YEAR INDICATOR!

I MUST PUT ON THE A.D. SWITCH.

NOW THE A.D. YEARS ARE TAKEN CARE OF.

OFF ON

-1990 AD

TIME TRANSPORTER

NOW WE WILL ENTER 2000 YEARS TO GO FURTHER BACK SO I'LL SWITCH ON THE B.C. SWITCH.

SO WE GO BACK BY A TOTAL OF 3,990 YEARS...

...TO REACH THE YEAR 2000 B.C.

READY! HOLD FIRMLY! HERE GOES!!

THE FIGURES IN THE YEAR INDICATOR START CHANGING, SLOWLY AT FIRST...

SUDDENLY THERE WAS A BLINDING FLASH.

ZAP!

AND ALL WAS STILL.

HEY DURGA, LOOK, WE HAVE ARRIVED! ISN'T IT BEAUTIFUL?

MAGNIFICENT!

IT IS EVEN MORE BEAUTIFUL THAN GRANDPA'S DESCRIPTION!

SOMEONE IS BLOWING A WHISTLE!

TOOT TOOT TI-TOOT!

TOOT!

TOOT!

TI-TOOT

TOOT! TI-TOOT!

♪TI-TOOT!

HEY! THAT IS MY WHISTLE!

YOURS?

YES, LOOK! IT'S JUST LIKE MINE.

MY FATHER MADE THEM. WHERE DID YOU FIND THIS ONE?

OUR GRANDFATHER FOUND IT HERE, IN THE RUINS!

RUINS? WHERE ARE THE RUINS?

ER... NO, NOT IN THE RUINS, IN ONE OF THESE LANES.

AH! DASU MUST HAVE THROWN IT IN HERE. HE SNATCHED IT FROM ME.

SOUNDS LIKE A ROGUE!

HE IS! DASU LOVES TO HARASS AND BOSS OVER CHILDREN... DON'T YOU KNOW HIM?

NO!

GIVE HIS WHISTLE BACK TO HIM.

OH, WELL! HERE TAKE IT. IT'S YOURS!

NO! YOU KEEP IT. I HAVE MORE AT HOME. BY THE WAY, WHO ARE YOU?

I AM VIJAY, AND THIS IS MY SISTER...

...DURGA!

I AM VALA. YOU SEEM TO BE NEW HERE.

WE ARE. YES, WE HAVE COME TO SEE YOUR TOWN.

COME, I WILL TAKE BOTH OF YOU AROUND...

SUDDENLY—

HA!

DASU!

?!

NO! DASU THE GREAT!

I LOST THAT WHISTLE. GIVE ME YOURS, VALA.

I WON'T!

OH YES, YOU WILL!

NO, I WON'T! IT'S MINE...

HEY DASU! LEAVE VALA ALONE-

OHO! BRAVE BOY TRYING TO TACKLE DASU THE GREAT?

LET ME SEE HOW STRONG YOU ARE, PUNY FOREIGNER!

OOF!

VIJAY!

BACK ON HIS FEET, VIJAY RUSHED AT DASU AGAIN...

GRRR-R! UGH!

IT'S NO USE, STRANGER! I AM STRONG ENOUGH FOR BOTH OF YOU...

NOW GIVE ME THE WHISTLE, VALA.

NO! NO!

FOR THE LAST TIME, WILL YOU GIVE ME THE WHISTLE?
NO! NEVER!
OKAY, YOU WILL SEE MY STRENGTH.
I AM GOING TO BANG YOUR HEADS!
BANG!
?!
BANG!
BANG!
BANG!
HELP!
BANG!
BANG!
BANG!
BANG!
HA! HA! HA! HA! HA!
?

WHAT WAS THAT?

CRACKERS!

WHAT IS CRACKERS?

THESE ARE CRACKERS, VALA, FIRE CRACKERS!

WHEN YOU LIGHT A CRACKER'S TAIL, IT BURSTS WITH A LOUD BANG!

WHY?

BECAUSE IT IS FILLED WITH GUNPOWDER!

WHAT IS GUNPOWDER?

YOU WILL NEED AT LEAST 3000 YEARS TO UNDERSTAND GUNPOWDER!

3000 YEARS?!!

COME, I WILL SHOW YOU AROUND THE TOWN.

THIS IS OUR MAIN ROAD.

IT IS ALMOST AS BROAD AS THE ROAD IN OUR COLONY!

LET US MEASURE IT!

TWENTY-EIGHT, TWENTY-NINE, THIRTY. YES, IT IS THIRTY METRES BROAD.

WHAT IS METRES?

IT IS A UNIT OF MEASUREMENT.

...BUT YOU WON'T UNDERSTAND IT NOW. YOU NEED 3790 YEARS TO KNOW A METRE.*

?

IS SHE PULLING MY LEG?

EH?

*METRE WAS INTRODUCED AS A UNIT OF MEASUREMENT IN FRANCE AROUND 1790.

WHY DO I NEED 3790 YEARS TO KNOW WHAT YOU KNOW.
DON'T PAY ATTENTION TO HER. SHE IS CRAZY.
I GUESS ALL GIRLS ARE CRAZY. DANI, MY SISTER, ALSO BEHAVES LIKE DURGA.
...BUT I MUST ADMIT, SHE IS A VERY BRAVE GIRL TO HAVE TACKLED DASU THE WAY SHE DID.
THERE THEY ARE. VALA AND HIS FRIENDS.
WHAT IS THAT BIG BUILDING?
THAT IS OUR TOWN'S GRANARY.

NO, NOT NOW, THERE ARE TOO MANY PEOPLE HERE.

SHALL WE GRAB THEM?

WHAT DO ALL THESE SHOPKEEPERS SELL?

SHOPKEEPERS? YOU MEAN THE PANIS? THEY SELL MANY THINGS.

IVORY, FIGURINES, HERBS COSMETICS...

THIS SEEMS TO BE THE MOST COMMON WEIGHT THE PANIS USE. LET ME SEE.

IT WEIGHS 13·64 GM.

WANT TO SEE A REALLY BIG ONE THAT'S USED FOR WEIGHING GRAIN?

AT THE GRANARY—

YOUR HEAVIEST WEIGHT IS ALMOST ELEVEN KILOGRAMS.

OH, I'D LOVE TO!

ARE THE GRAINS BROUGHT HERE IN BULLOCK-CARTS LIKE THAT ONE?

LOOK! BEHIND THAT CART! DASU AND HIS FRIENDS. LET'S RUN.

HEY! THEY ARE RUNNING AWAY!

DON'T GO CLOSE TO THEM. THEY HAVE GOT THINGS THAT GO BANG-BANG. HIT THEM WITH STONES.

DURGA, RUN WITH VIJAY. I'LL HOLD THEM OFF!

VALA CHARGED WITH ALL HIS MIGHT.

OH-OH! THE STREET ENDS HERE! WHAT DO WE DO NOW?

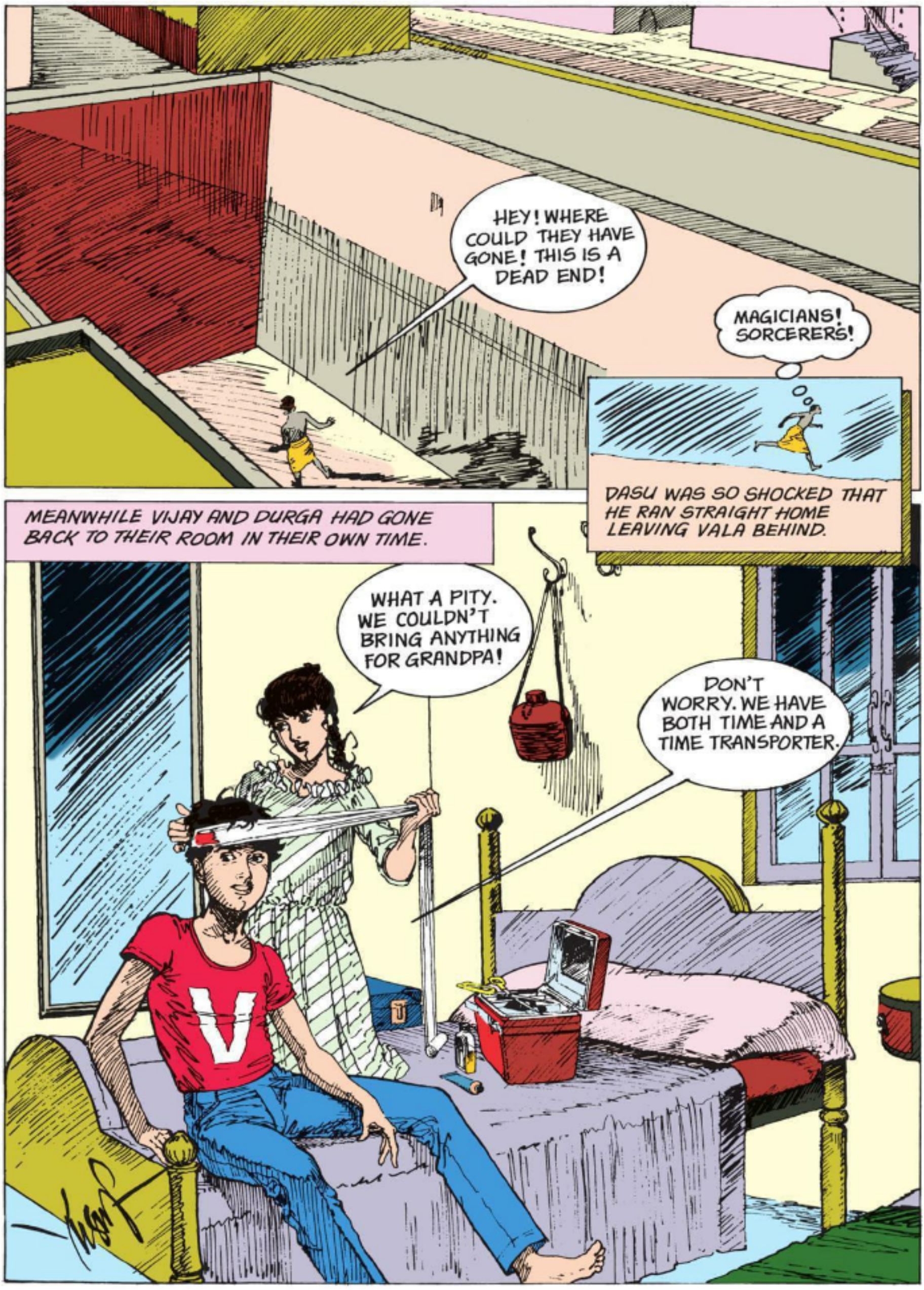
HOLD ON TO VALA. I AM GOING AFTER THE OTHER TWO.

+2000

+1990 AD

ZAP!

GO


HEY! WHERE COULD THEY HAVE GONE! THIS IS A DEAD END!
MAGICIANS! SORCERERS!
DASU WAS SO SHOCKED THAT HE RAN STRAIGHT HOME LEAVING VALA BEHIND.
MEANWHILE VIJAY AND DURGA HAD GONE BACK TO THEIR ROOM IN THEIR OWN TIME.
WHAT A PITY. WE COULDN'T BRING ANYTHING FOR GRANDPA!
DON'T WORRY. WE HAVE BOTH TIME AND A TIME TRANSPORTER.

THE ROUTE TO THE ROOTS

THE INDUS VALLEY ADVENTURE

WHEN DID YOU GET THAT BUMP ON YOUR FOREHEAD, VIJAY?

THREE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED NINETY YEARS AGO, GRANDPA.

THREE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED NINETY YEARS AGO. REALLY?

WELL...

...AS YOU YOURSELF KEEP REPEATING, EVERYTHING ON THIS SITE IS AROUND FOUR THOUSAND YEARS OLD.

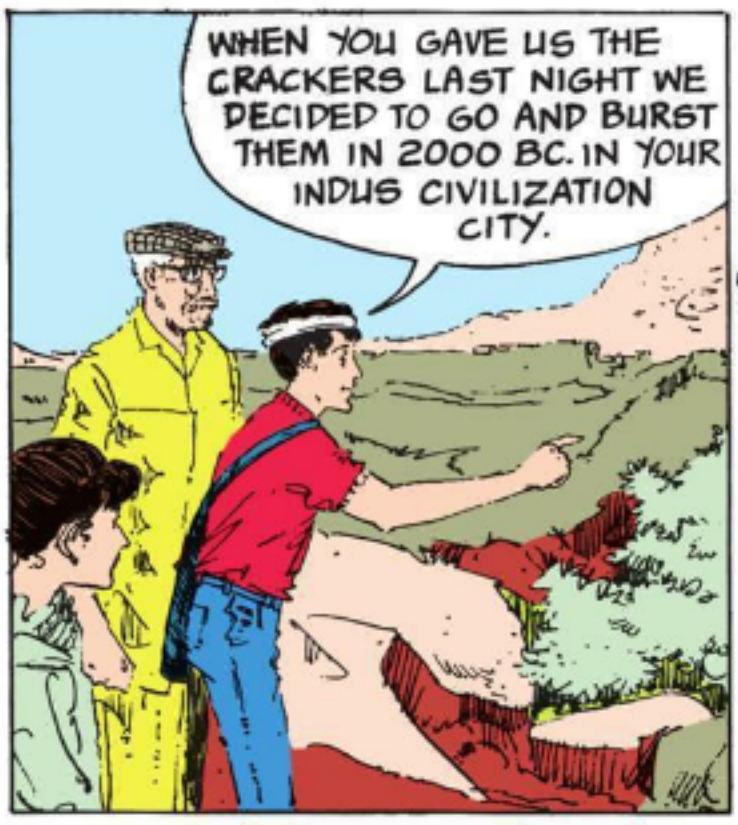
...THEN EVERYTHING THAT HAPPENS HERE SHOULD ALSO HAVE HAPPENED AROUND FOUR THOUSAND YEARS AGO.

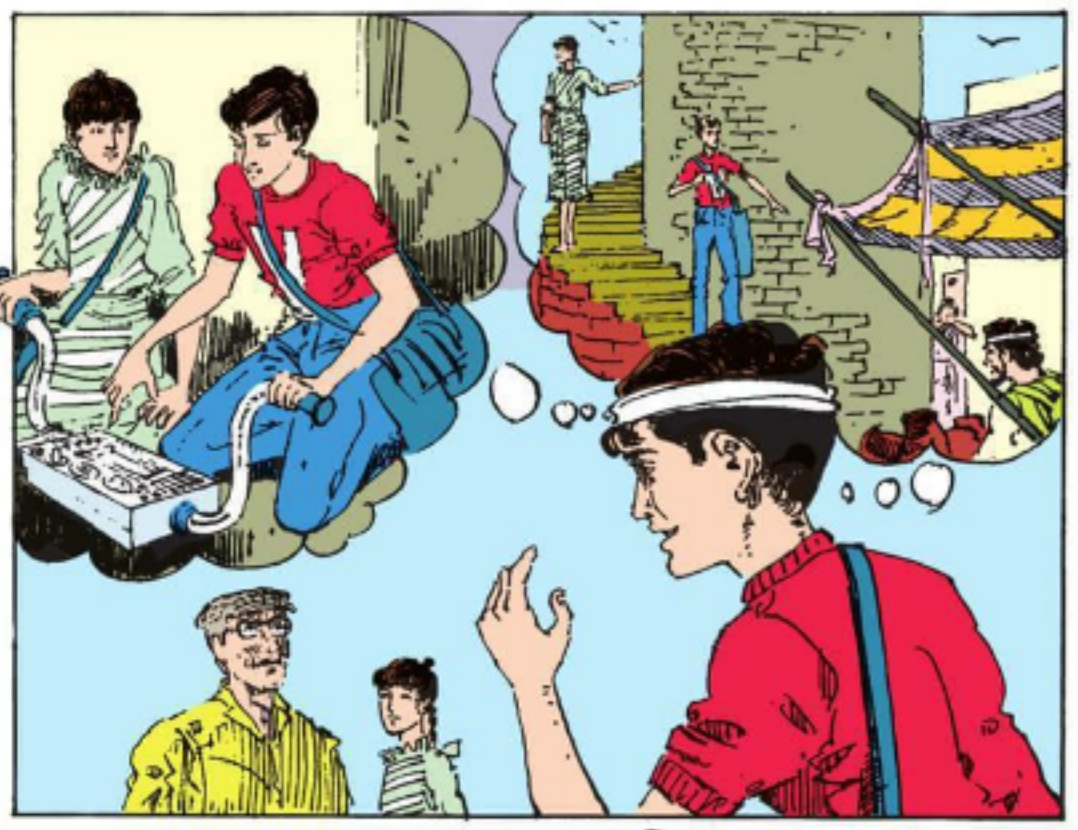
YOU HAVE A POINT THERE, DURGA, THOUGH QUITE A FANTASTIC ONE!

ISN'T LIFE ITSELF A FANTASY, GRANDPA?

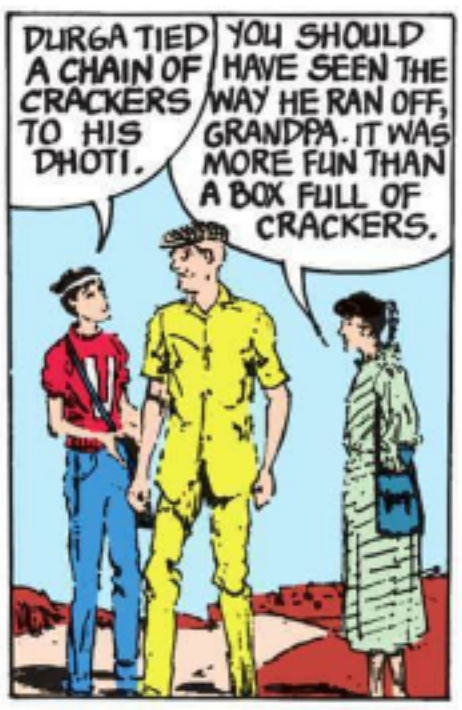
THAT'S WHAT I ALWAYS SAY. WELL, LET US HEAR YOUR FANTASY OF HOW VIJAY GOT HURT THREE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED NINETY YEARS AGO.

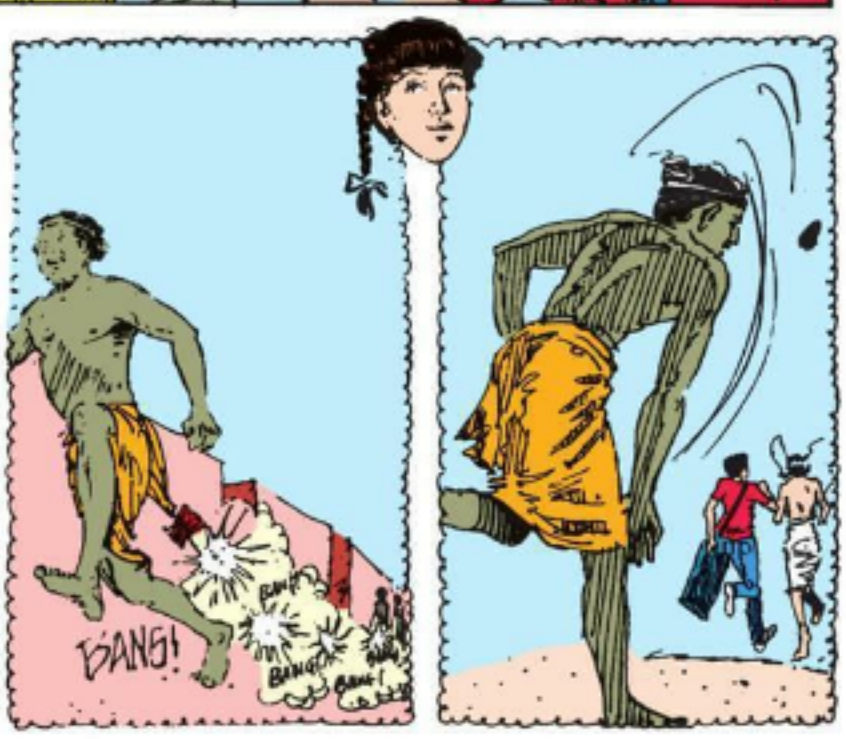
I'LL TRY TO TELL YOU IN BRIEF.


WHEN YOU GAVE US THE CRACKERS LAST NIGHT WE DECIDED TO GO AND BURST THEM IN 2000 BC. IN YOUR INDUS CIVILIZATION CITY.



THERE WE MET DASU, A NASTY BOY.


DURGA TIED A CHAIN OF CRACKERS TO HIS DHOTI.
YOU SHOULD HAVE SEEN THE WAY HE RAN OFF, GRANDPA. IT WAS MORE FUN THAN A BOX FULL OF CRACKERS.


BANG!

WAS THAT HOW VIJAY GOT HURT?
THREE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED NINETY YEARS AGO?
YES! YES!

THIS IS ENOUGH FANTASY FOR A DAY. NOW, LET ME GET ON WITH MY WORK.
OKAY, GRANDPA, BUT WHY DON'T YOU TELL US MORE ABOUT THE INDUS CIVILI-ZATION?

REALLY? BUT YESTERDAY YOU FOUND THESE DESOLATE RUINS UTTERLY BORING.

I DID SAY SO, BUT I GUESS IT WAS A FUN PLACE ALL THOSE YEARS AGO.

IT WAS NOT ONLY EXCITING, IT WAS ALSO THE PEAK OF CIVILISED LIFE IN THE WORLD OF THAT PERIOD...

"... WHEN PEOPLE IN MANY PARTS OF THE WORLD STILL LIVED IN CAVES, THE INDUS VALLEY HAD WELL-PLANNED CITIES.

"WHEN MOST OF THE WORLD WAS ILLITERATE, THE INDUS VALLEY PEOPLE HAD EVOLVED A SCRIPT.

"... WHEN PEOPLE IN MANY PARTS OF THE WORLD WERE STILL WEARING ANIMAL SKINS, THE INDUS PEOPLE HAD LEARNT TO WEAVE COTTON TEXTILES AND BEAUTIFUL ONES TOO.

VIJAY WHISPERED TO DURGA—

SHALL WE GO BACK AND CHECK ALL THESE THINGS THAT GRANDPA IS TELLING US?

OKAY.

GRANDPA, IT IS GETTING HOT HERE. WE ARE GOING BACK TO THE GUEST HOUSE.

BACK IN THEIR ROOM—

I WILL SET OUR TIME TRANS-PORTER TO TAKE US BACK TO 2000 BC.

I WILL COLLECT THE NECESSARY THINGS TO CARRY.

1990 AD

TIME TRANSPORTER

OKAY, IT IS ALL SET. COME ON HOLD THE TIME TRANSPORTER TIGHTLY.

INDUS CIVILIZATION HERE WE COME!

1990 AD

1965 AD

1673 AD

48 AD

1749 BC.

2000 B.C.

WE ARE HERE AGAIN. NOW TO CONTACT OUR FRIEND, VALA.

WE DON'T KNOW WHERE HE LIVES. HOW WILL YOU FIND HIM?

I HAVE VALA'S WHISTLE. I'LL BLOW IT AS WE MOVE IN THE STREETS.

TOOT-TI-

TOOT-TI-TOOT-TI-TOOT-TI-TOOT-TI-TOOT

HOY! THAT SOUNDS LIKE VIJAY'S WHISTLE.

TOT TO TOOT

TITOOT

TOOT

THAT IS VALA ANSWERING.

TOOT-TI TOOT-TOOT VIJAY! DURGA!

TOOT-TI-TOOT-TOOT YOURSELF, VALA!

I THOUGHT I LOST YOU AFTER THAT FIGHT WITH DASU... I SEE YOU ARE HURT.

YES, DASU HIT ME WITH A STONE.

VALAAAAA

MOTHER IS CALLING ME. COME, LET'S GO HOME.

SO, THERE YOU ARE, THE BANG-BANG TRIO.

IT IS DASU AGAIN.

RUN! FOLLOW ME!

DASU! BANG! BANG!

PISS

BANG!

BANG!

BANG!

VALA-VALA

COME LET'S GO HOME.

HA HA!

THERE YOU ARE, VALA!

I'VE BROUGHT SOME FRIENDS, MA.

WHY DID YOU STOP, CHILDREN? COME IN. DON'T FEEL SHY.

MA, THIS IS VIJAY AND THAT IS DURGA...

DURGA IS A VERY BRAVE GIRL, SHE MADE EVEN DASU RUN AWAY IN FRIGHT.

I SEE! WHO ARE THEY?

THEY ARE CHILDREN, MA!

SO, I CAN SEE! BUT WHOSE CHILDREN?

OUR MUMMY DADDY'S!

HEE HEE HEE HEE!

WHY DO YOU LAUGH?

SHE CALLS HER MOTHER AND FATHER MUMMY AND DADDY.

SO WHAT? IT MUST BE THEIR WAY OF ADDRESSING THEM!

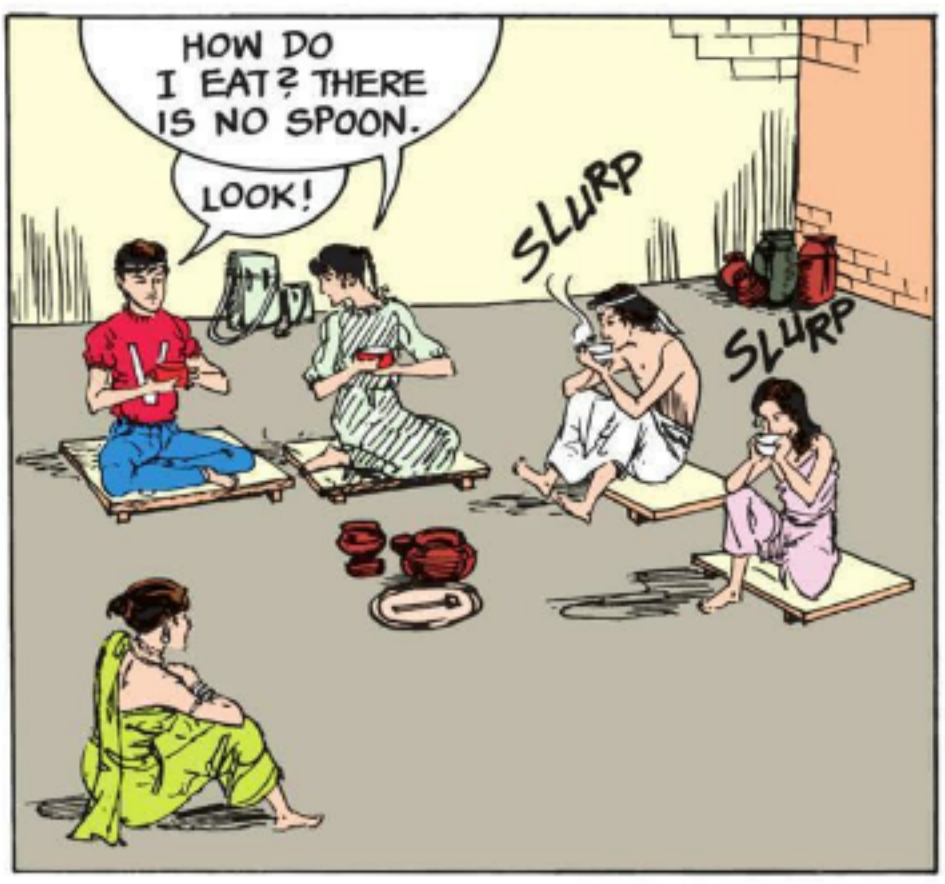
THIS IS MY SISTER DANI.
AND THIS IS HIS BROTHER, THE GOAT. HEE HEE!

YES, HE IS! I LOVE HIM LIKE MY BROTHER.

COME ON, YALA, HAVE YOUR MEAL. VIJAY, DURGA, YOU TOO HAVE SOME FOOD.

I WILL FIRST FEED MY GOAT, MOTHER.

HERE! I HOPE YOU LIKE THE FOOD.
IT LOOKS GOOD.

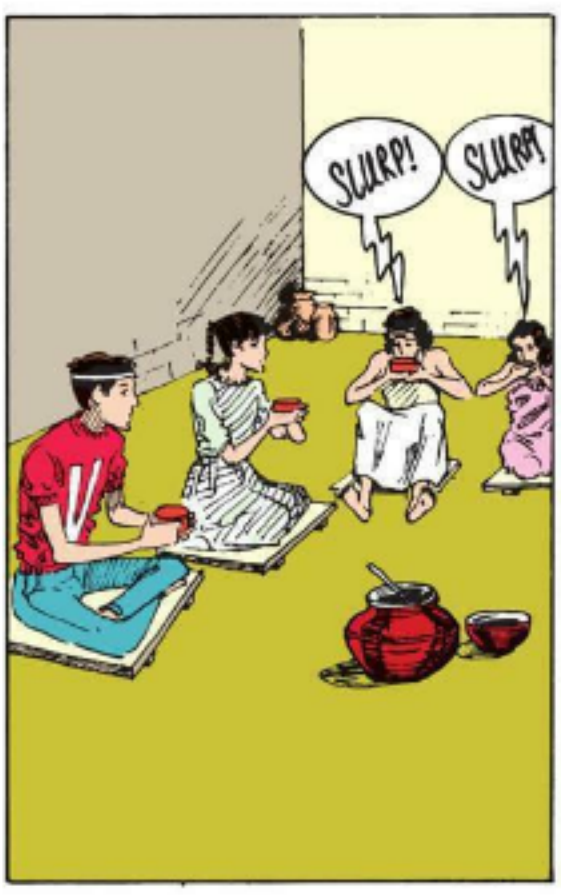

HOW DO I EAT? THERE IS NO SPOON.
LOOK!
SLURP
SLURP

SLURP!
SLURP!

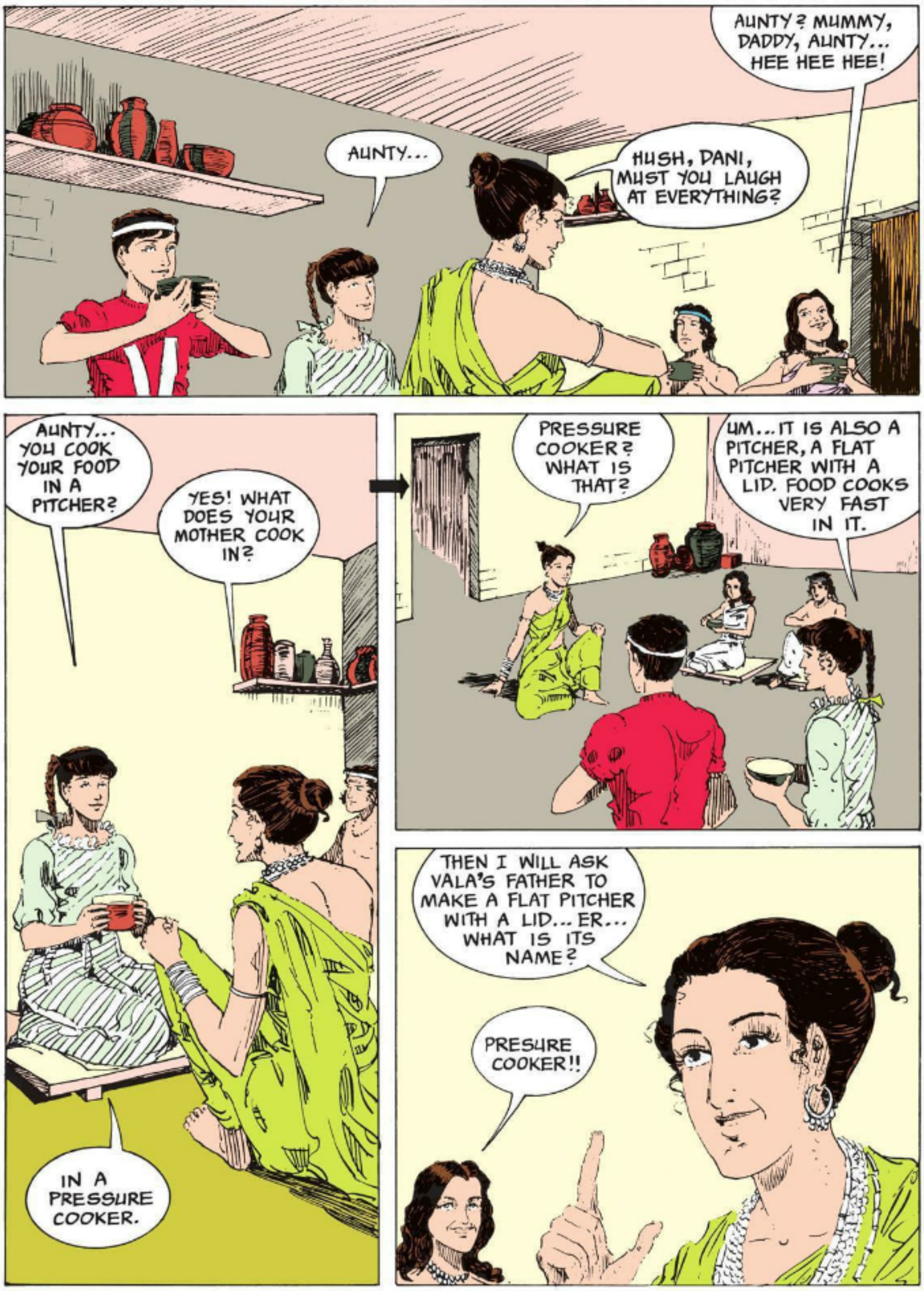
VIJAY, DURGA! YOU DON'T LIKE THE PORRIDGE?
SLURP!
SLURP

NO, NO, IT IS VERY TASTY.
I JUST LOVE PORRIDGE.
THEN WHY ARE YOU SO QUIET? YOU LOOK MISERABLE.

LOOK AT VALA AND DANI. HOW THEY ARE ENJOYING THEIR MEAL.
SLURP!
SLURP!


SLURP!
SLURP!

SLURP!
SLURP!


AUNTY? MUMMY, DADDY, AUNTY... HEE HEE HEE!
AUNTY...
HUSH, DANI, MUST YOU LAUGH AT EVERYTHING?
AUNTY... YOU COOK YOUR FOOD IN A PITCHER?
YES! WHAT DOES YOUR MOTHER COOK IN?
IN A PRESSURE COOKER.
PRESSURE COOKER? WHAT IS THAT?
UM... IT IS ALSO A PITCHER, A FLAT PITCHER WITH A LID. FOOD COOKS VERY FAST IN IT.
THEN I WILL ASK VALA'S FATHER TO MAKE A FLAT PITCHER WITH A LID... ER... WHAT IS ITS NAME?
PRESURE COOKER!!

THESE UTENSILS ARE MADE BY YOUR FATHER?

YES, HE IS AN EXPERT POTTER.

SEE, THERE HE IS BUSY MAKING POTS.

OH, YES.

YOUR FATHER MAKES BEAUTIFUL UTENSILS!

AFTER ALL HE IS MY FATHER.

NOBODY IN THE TOWN MAKES AS BEAUTIFUL UTENSILS AS HE DOES.

MY FATHER'S POTS GO TO SO MANY COUNTRIES: EAST, WEST, NORTH, SOUTH.

O BOY! SO MANY KINDS OF TOYS!

A BULLOCK CART!

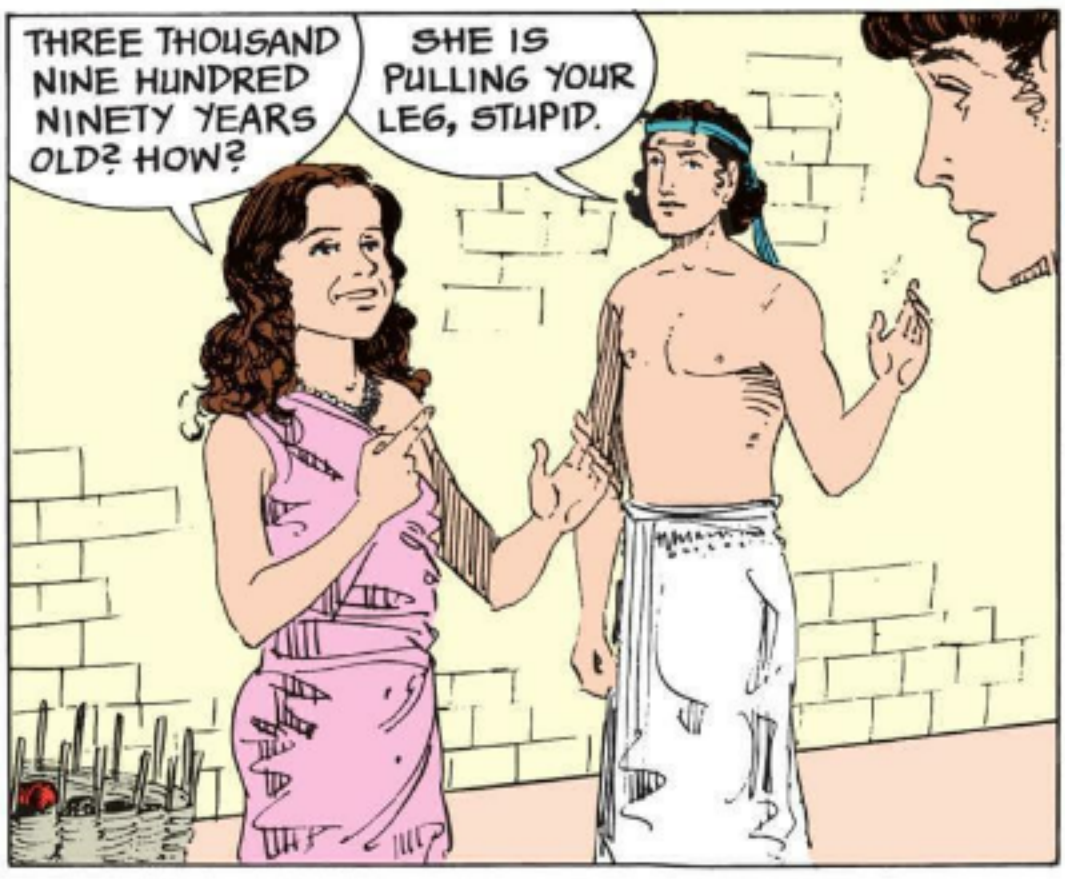
AND A BULL THAT SHAKES ITS HEAD.

AND A MONKEY WHICH MOVES ON A STRING!

DO YOU WANT THESE TOYS?
YES! FOR OUR GRAND-FATHER.

YOUR GRANDFATHER? HE PLAYS WITH TOYS?
NO, HE STUDIES ANCIENT OBJECTS.

BUT THESE TOYS ARE NEW. JUST MADE TODAY.
DON'T WORRY. BY THE TIME HE GETS THEM THEY WILL BE THREE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED NINETY YEARS OLD.


THREE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED NINETY YEARS OLD? HOW?
SHE IS PULLING YOUR LEG, STUPID.

CAN I TAKE SOME OF THESE TOYS FOR MY GRAND-FATHER?

SURE... YOUR GRAND-FATHER REALLY SEEMS TO LIKE TOYS.

WELL, HE LIKES SEALS TOO.

MY UNCLE MAKES BEAUTIFUL SEALS. COME I'LL SHOW YOU.

AREN'T THEY BEAUTIFUL?

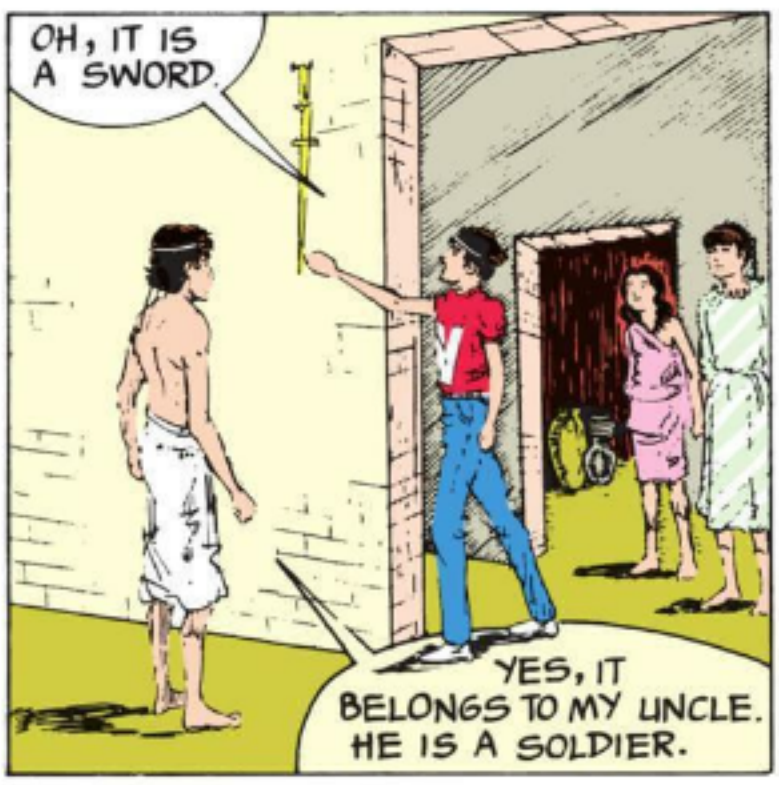
YES! GRANDFATHER WOULD JUST LOVE THEM.

UNCLE, CAN WE GET SOME OF THESE SEALS FOR OUR GRANDFATHER?

NO, SON, THESE BELONG TO THE MOST IMPORTANT PANI* OF THE CITY...

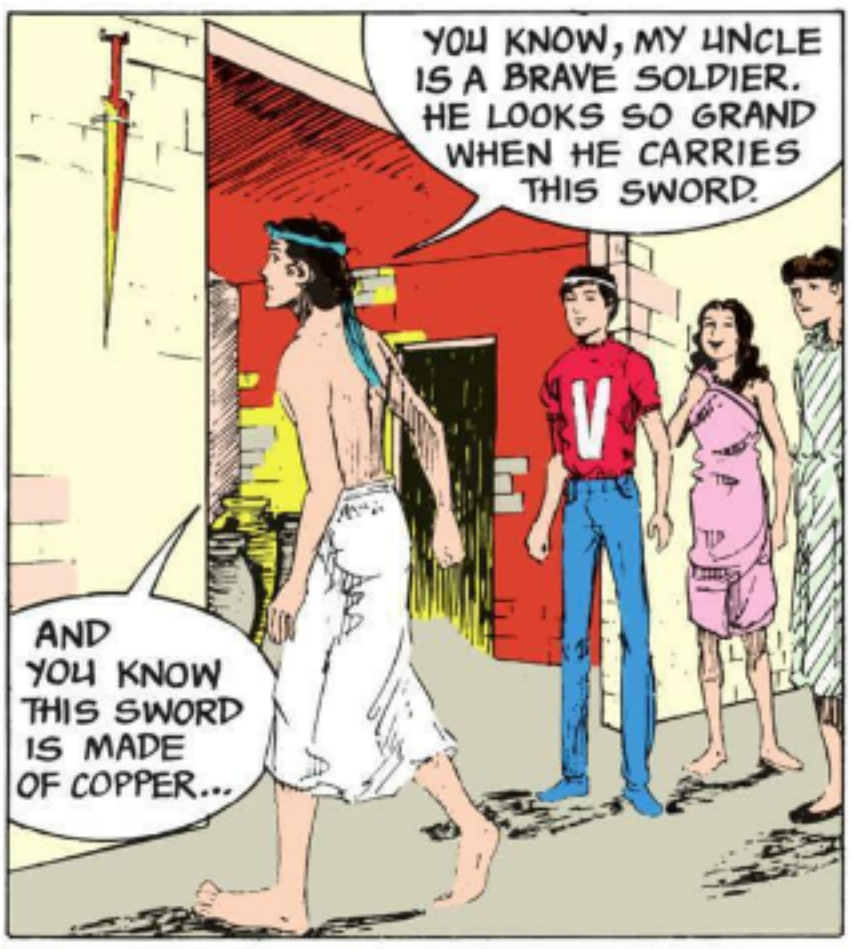
THESE CAN'T BE GIVEN TO ANYONE ELSE.
DON'T YOU WANT TO COME FOR THE PROCESSION?
COMING, MA.

OOF!


OH, IT IS A SWORD.
YES, IT BELONGS TO MY UNCLE. HE IS A SOLDIER.

YES SIMPLE SOLDIER OF BENT SWORD HEE! HEE! HEE!
BENT SWORD? BUT, THIS SWORD IS PERFECTLY STRAIGHT.

DON'T PAY ATTENTION TO HER. SHE CRACKS STUPID JOKES. NOBODY LAUGHS AT THEM EXCEPT SHE HERSELF.
HEE-HEE

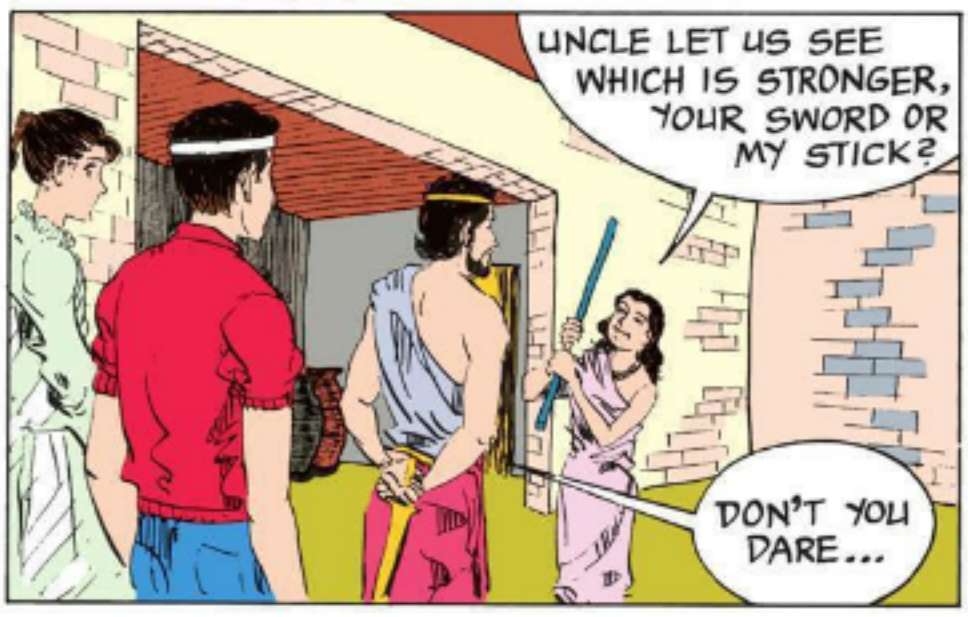

YOU KNOW, MY UNCLE IS A BRAVE SOLDIER. HE LOOKS SO GRAND WHEN HE CARRIES THIS SWORD.
AND YOU KNOW THIS SWORD IS MADE OF COPPER...

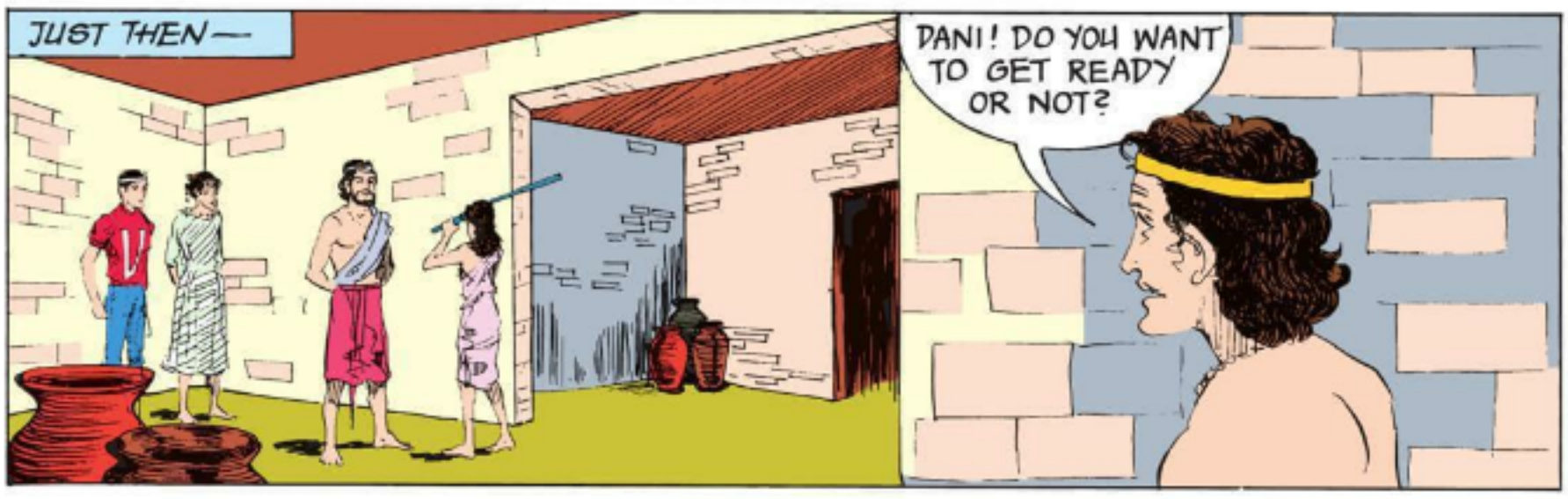
SEE!
VALA

GIVE ME THAT SWORD. HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO TELL YOU NOT TO PLAY WITH IT?
OUR MOTHER ALSO SAYS THAT CHILDREN SHOULD NOT PLAY WITH KNIVES AND SHARP INSTRUMENTS.
SHE IS RIGHT. SWORDS ARE NOT FOR PLAYING WITH. THEY ARE FOR PUNISHING WICKED PEOPLE.
UNCLE, DO YOU HAVE MANY ROGUES IN YOUR CITY?
NO, SON. THERE ARE NO ROGUES.
BUT I STILL CARRY THE SWORD. IF I DON'T, THEN HOW WILL PEOPLE KNOW THAT I AM A SOLDIER?
THAT MEANS YOUR SWORD IS NEVER USED!
UH! IT IS! SOMETIMES WHEN SOMEONE CREATES A NUISANCE AT A FAIR OR A CROWD..

THEN, THE MOMENT I RAISE MY SWORD EVERYONE BECOMES QUIET.
UNCLE!

HUH?


UNCLE LET US SEE WHICH IS STRONGER, YOUR SWORD OR MY STICK?
DON'T YOU DARE...


JUST THEN—
DANI! DO YOU WANT TO GET READY OR NOT?

GO, YOUR MOTHER IS CALLING.
LET'S GO!

SIMPLE SOLDIER WITH A BENT SWORD!
HUP!

VALA, CHANGE YOUR DRESS.

SEE, HOW MANY LICE YOU HAVE, DANI!

YOU TOO HAVE THEM DRAWN OUT, DURGA— THE LICE FROM YOUR HAIR.
HUP!

COME ON, DURGA, I WILL COMB YOUR HAIR TOO. THIS COMB WILL DRAW OUT ALL THE LICE.

YES, YES, PLEASE COMB HER HAIR.

WHY ARE YOU WEARING ONE PLAIT?

MAIDENS SHOULD WEAR FOUR PLAITS.

HOW BEAUTIFUL!

TAKE IT!

NO! I CAN'T!

I WILL BUY ANOTHER. IT IS QUITE CHEAP.

NO!

DANI, WHY DON'T YOU EXCHANGE DURGA'S NECKLACE WITH YOURS?

OKAY, MA.

HEY, THESE ARE AGATE BEADS, SEMI-PRECIOUS STONES.

COME ON, LET'S GO TO THE POOJA FAIR.

YES, LET'S GO.

VALA, SHOW VIJAY AND DURGA OUR PUBLIC BATH.

YES, FATHER.

THIS IS OUR PUBLIC BATH.

TO IMAGINE THAT WHEN PEOPLE IN EUROPE WERE LIVING IN CAVES THREE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED NINETY YEARS AGO OUR PEOPLE HAD SUCH FACILITIES.

THREE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED NINETY YEARS AGO?

HE IS JOKING...ER ...THIS SURE IS A GREAT BATH.

ON THE DAY OF SACRIFICE EVEN MAHA OJHAJI TAKES HIS CEREMONIAL BATH HERE.

HEY, CHILDREN, CLEAR OUT NOW. MAHA OJHAJI IS COMING.

COME, VIJAY, LET'S GO TO THE FAIR MARKET.

TRADERS COME FROM DISTANT LANDS TO THE FAIR MARKET.

YOU SEE THAT MAN. HE HAS COME FROM SUMER.

THE TRADER STOPS IN FRONT OF A LIVESTOCK STALL.

I WANT THOSE TWO PAIRS OF PEACOCKS. COME, GIVE ME A GOOD BARGAIN FOR THEM.

SEE, HE HAS ALREADY BOUGHT SOME IVORY OBJECTS AND NOW HE'S TAKING THESE PEACOCKS. HE PAYS HERE IN COPPER, BUT HE WILL SELL THEM FOR GOLD LATER.

FURTHER DOWN IN THE MARKET—

HEY, A BLACK-SMITH!

HE MUST BE A COPPER-SMITH, STUPID, IRON IS NOT YET DISCOVERED.

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

THEY MUST BE TALKING ABOUT THEIR 4000 YEARS!

O UNCLE COPPERSMITH, YOU ARE USING A STONE HAMMER.

YES, CHILD, HEAVY HAMMERS ARE MADE ONLY FROM STONE.

WHAT ARE YOU MAKING, UNCLE?

A COPPER SWORD.

ARE SWORDS MADE ONLY OF COPPER?

NO, STRONGER SWORDS ARE MADE OF BRONZE.

BUT THIS IS OF COPPER. LIKE MY UNCLE'S BENT SWORD. HEE-HEE!

LO, HERE HE COMES.

HEY, CHILDREN, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

WATCHING A SWORD BEING MADE!

O UNCLE, HOW COME YOUR SWORD IS STILL STRAIGHT?

HUP!

SUDDENLY, THERE WAS A COMMOTION.

WHAT HAPPENED?

DASU'S FATHER IS CREATING A SCENE AFTER DRINKING HANDI.

COME FAST, LET'S SEE HOW UNCLE ACTS AS THE TOUGH SOLDIER.

HEY VALA, LOOK DASU IS OVER THERE.

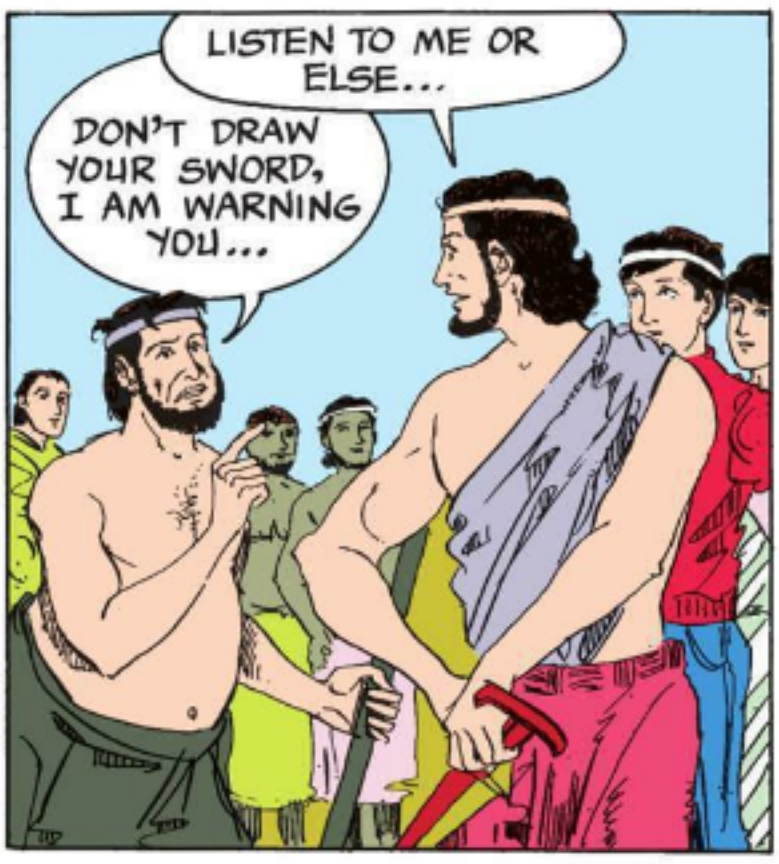
DON'T WORRY. HE WON'T DARE TO DO ANYTHING WITH SO MANY PEOPLE AROUND

AT THE SCENE OF THE COMMOTION —

COME ON! WHICH OF YOU DARES TO FIGHT ME?

HEY YOU! DROP THAT STICK AT ONCE.

I WON'T! WHO ARE YOU TO ORDER ME? COME ON!


LISTEN TO ME OR ELSE...
DON'T DRAW YOUR SWORD, I AM WARNING YOU...

I AM WARNING YOU. PUT YOUR SWORD DOWN!
I WILL WHEN YOU HAVE GONE HOME.
NOW, WATCH THE FUN!

AARGH!

FUNK

HA-HA
HA-HA
HA-HA

AARGH!

WELL, THAT IS OUR UNCLE'S GREAT BENT SWORD.

DHUM DHUM DHUM

AH! THE SACRIFICIAL PROCESSION IS COMING.

SACRIFICIAL PROCESSION?

DHUM DHUM

YES, THE PROCESSION OF THE GOAT WHICH WILL BE SACRIFICED.

HEY! THAT IS MY GOAT!

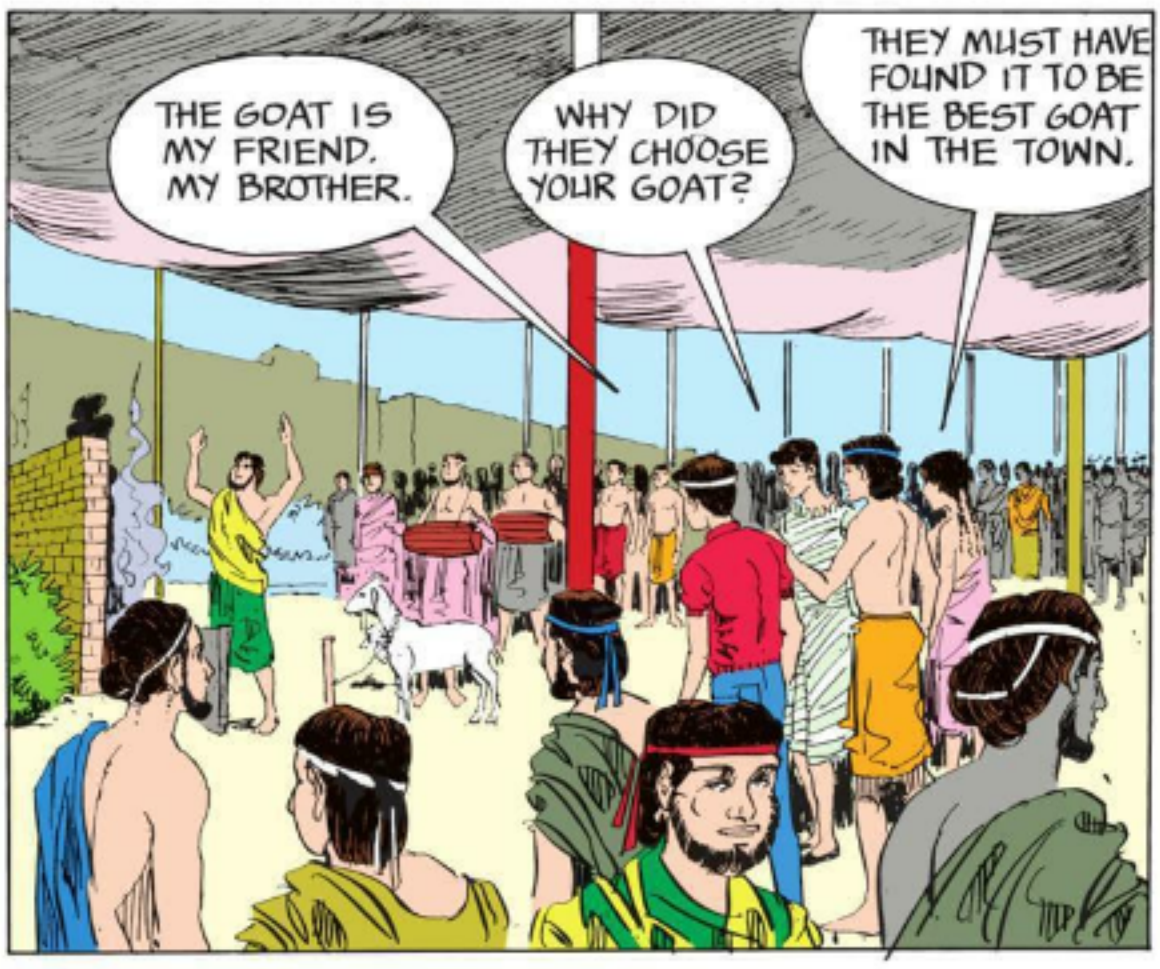
DHUM DHU

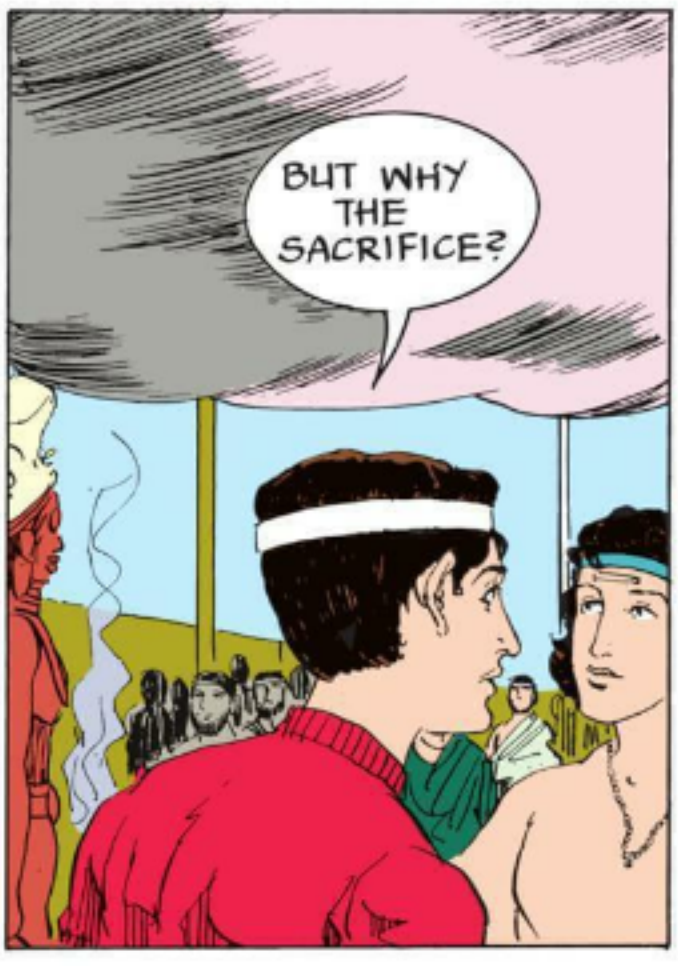
DHUM DHU

THEY ARE TAKING IT FOR A CEREMONIAL BATH.

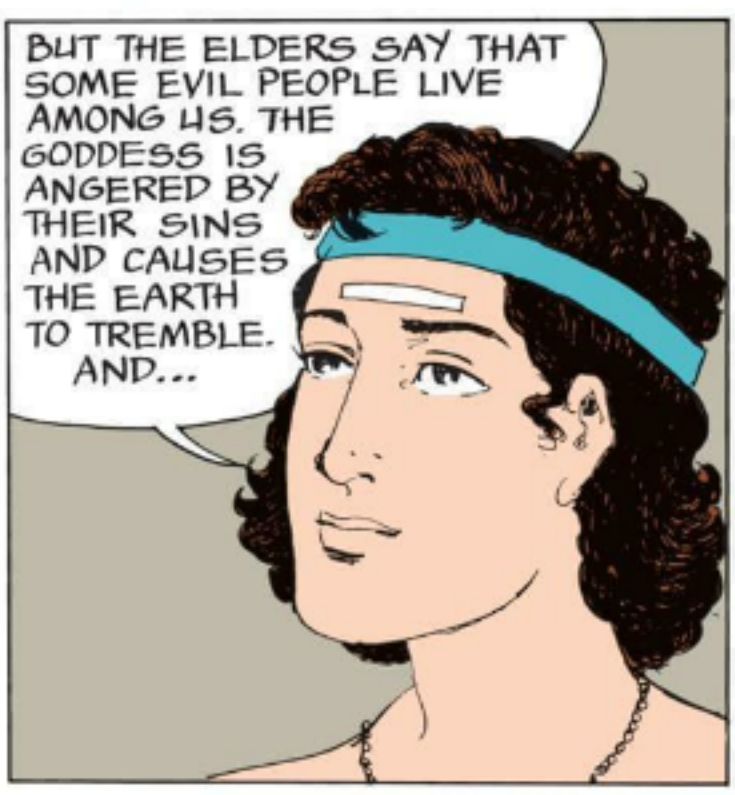
DHUM DHUM

IT WILL BE SACRIFICED TO THE GODDESS AT MIDNIGHT...

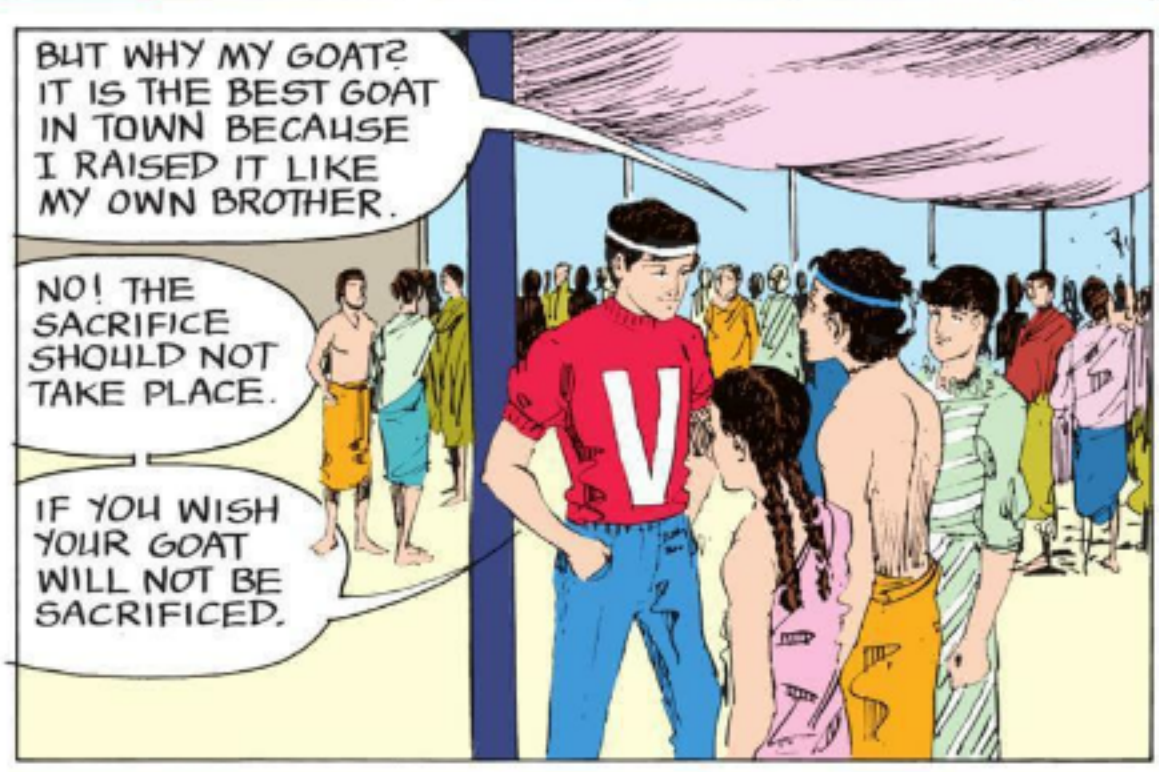

THE GOAT IS MY FRIEND. MY BROTHER.
WHY DID THEY CHOOSE YOUR GOAT?
THEY MUST HAVE FOUND IT TO BE THE BEST GOAT IN THE TOWN.


BUT WHY THE SACRIFICE?

SO THAT WE ESCAPE THE WRATH OF THE GODDESS. IF THE GODDESS GETS ANGRY, SHE CAUSES EARTHQUAKES.
BUT THE GODDESS DOESN'T CAUSE EARTHQUAKES. THEY ARE CAUSED BY UNDER-GROUND DISTURBANCES.


BUT THE ELDERS SAY THAT SOME EVIL PEOPLE LIVE AMONG US. THE GODDESS IS ANGERED BY THEIR SINS AND CAUSES THE EARTH TO TREMBLE. AND...

... BY SACRIFICING THE GOAT THE GODDESS WILL BE APPEASED.


BUT WHY MY GOAT? IT IS THE BEST GOAT IN TOWN BECAUSE I RAISED IT LIKE MY OWN BROTHER.
NO! THE SACRIFICE SHOULD NOT TAKE PLACE.
IF YOU WISH YOUR GOAT WILL NOT BE SACRIFICED.

ALL OF US TOGETHER! I HOPE YOU WILL HELP.

WHO WILL STOP IT?

S... SURE!

VALA, YOU BRING A LADDER AND MEET US HERE WHEN NIGHT FALLS.

BUT HOW WILL YOU STOP THE SACRIFICE?

THAT I WILL TELL YOU LATER. NOW, I HAVE TO MAKE SOME ARRANGEMENTS.

NOW, DURGA AND I WILL GO BEHIND THOSE BUSHES... DON'T FOLLOW US.

YOU GO HOME.

COME, LET'S FETCH A LADDER.

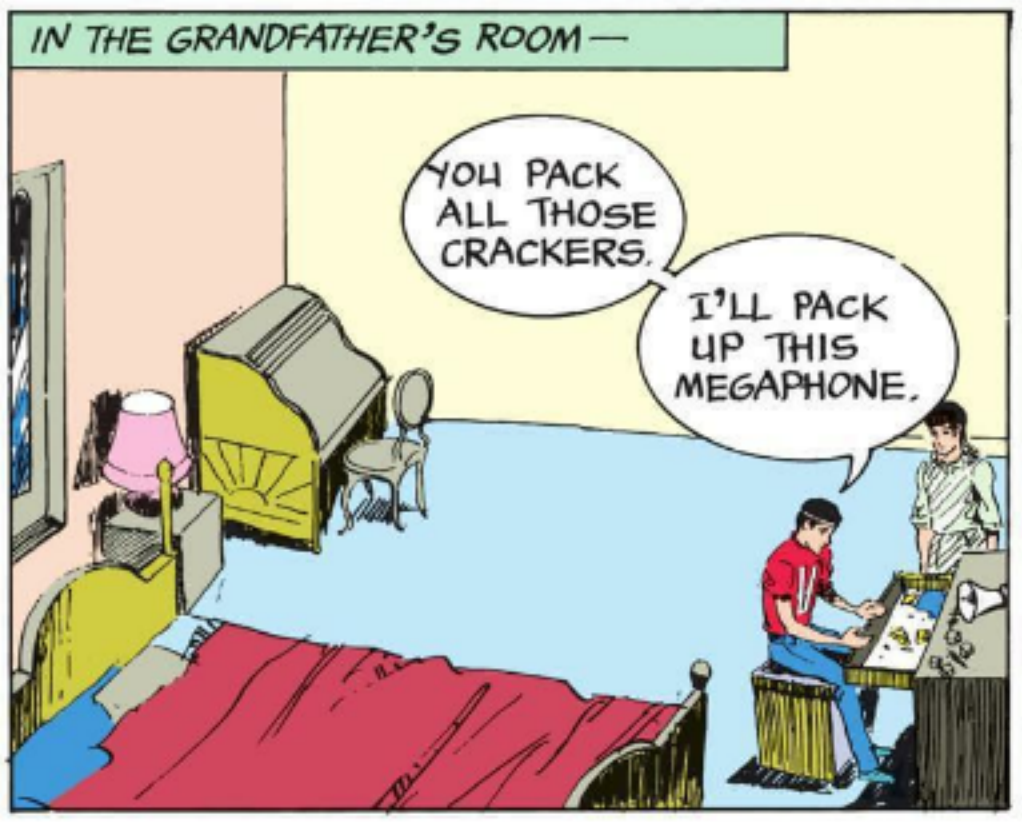
2000

GO

1990

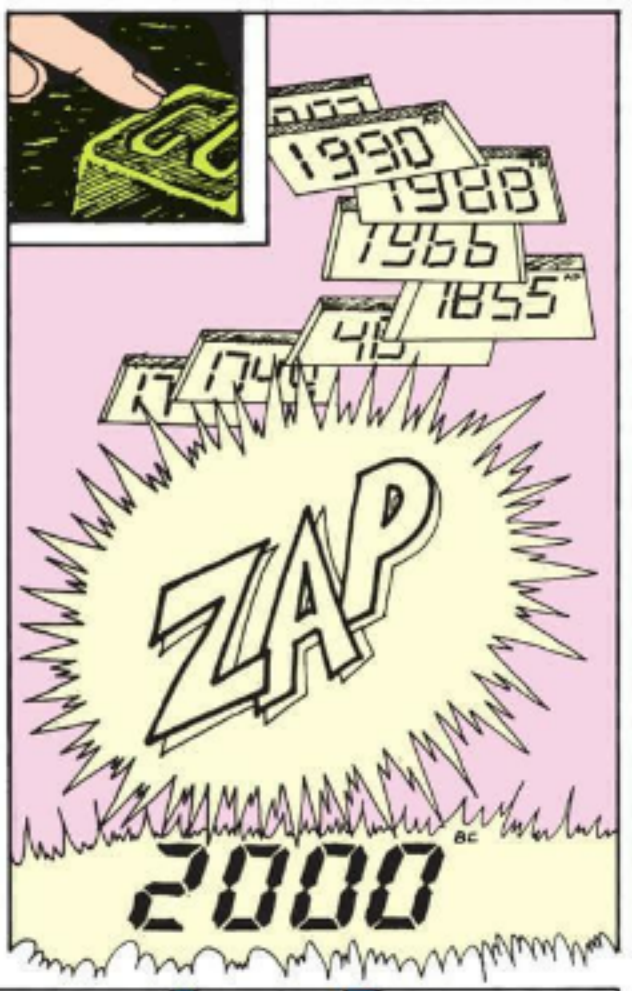
ZAP

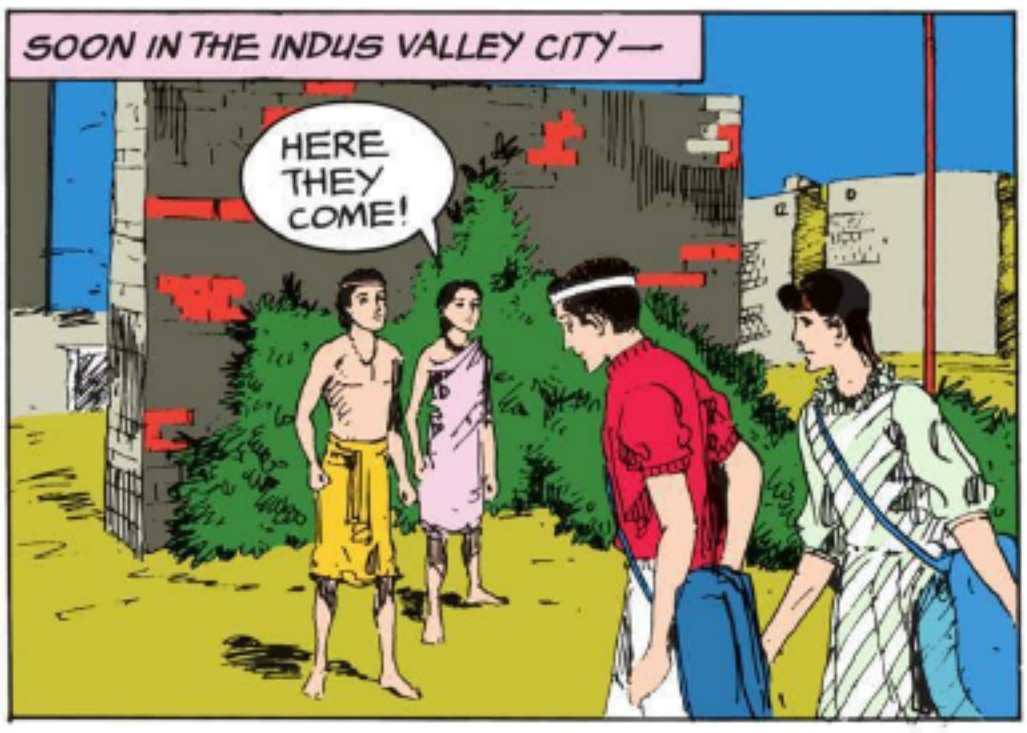
HERE WE ARE BACK IN OUR ROOM!
LET'S GO TO GRANDFATHER'S ROOM.


IN THE GRANDFATHER'S ROOM—
YOU PACK ALL THOSE CRACKERS.
I'LL PACK UP THIS MEGAPHONE.

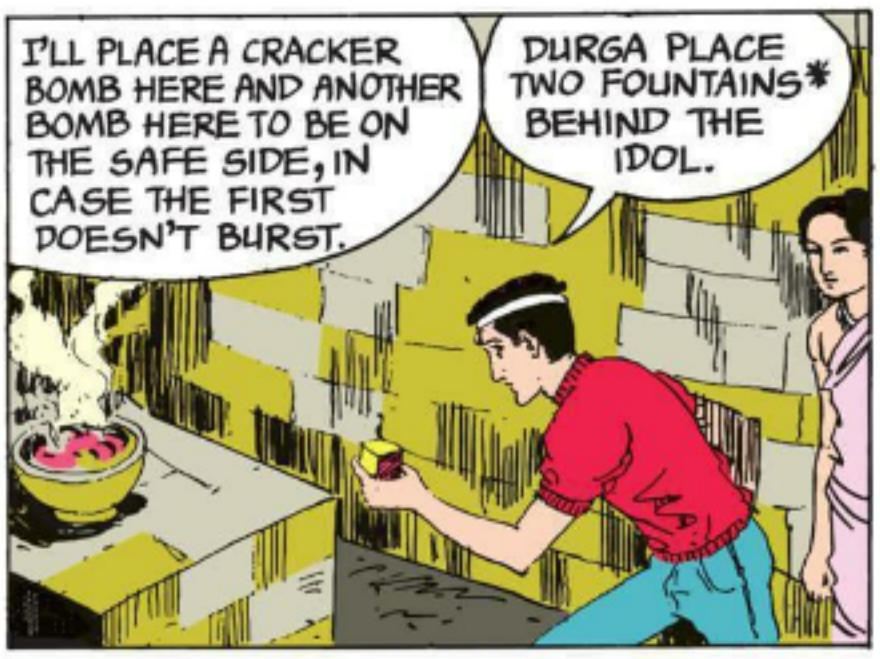
I'LL ALSO TAKE THESE FLASH-LIGHT BULBS AND SOME WIRES.

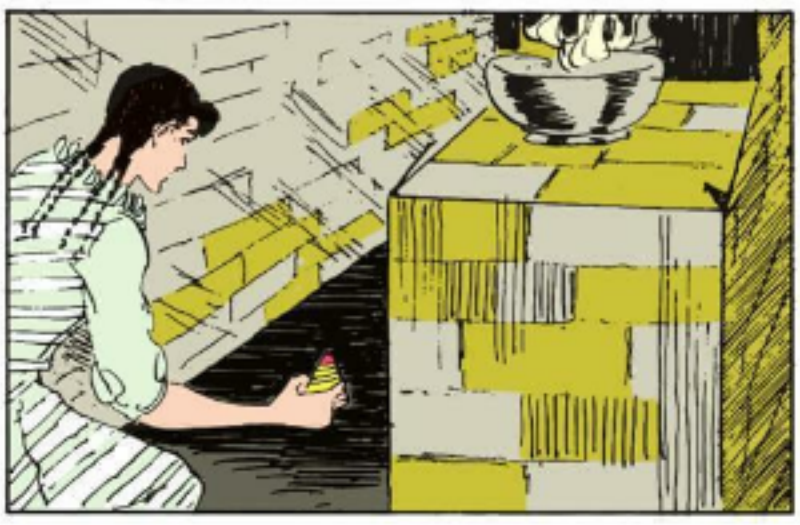
ALL SET! LET'S GO!

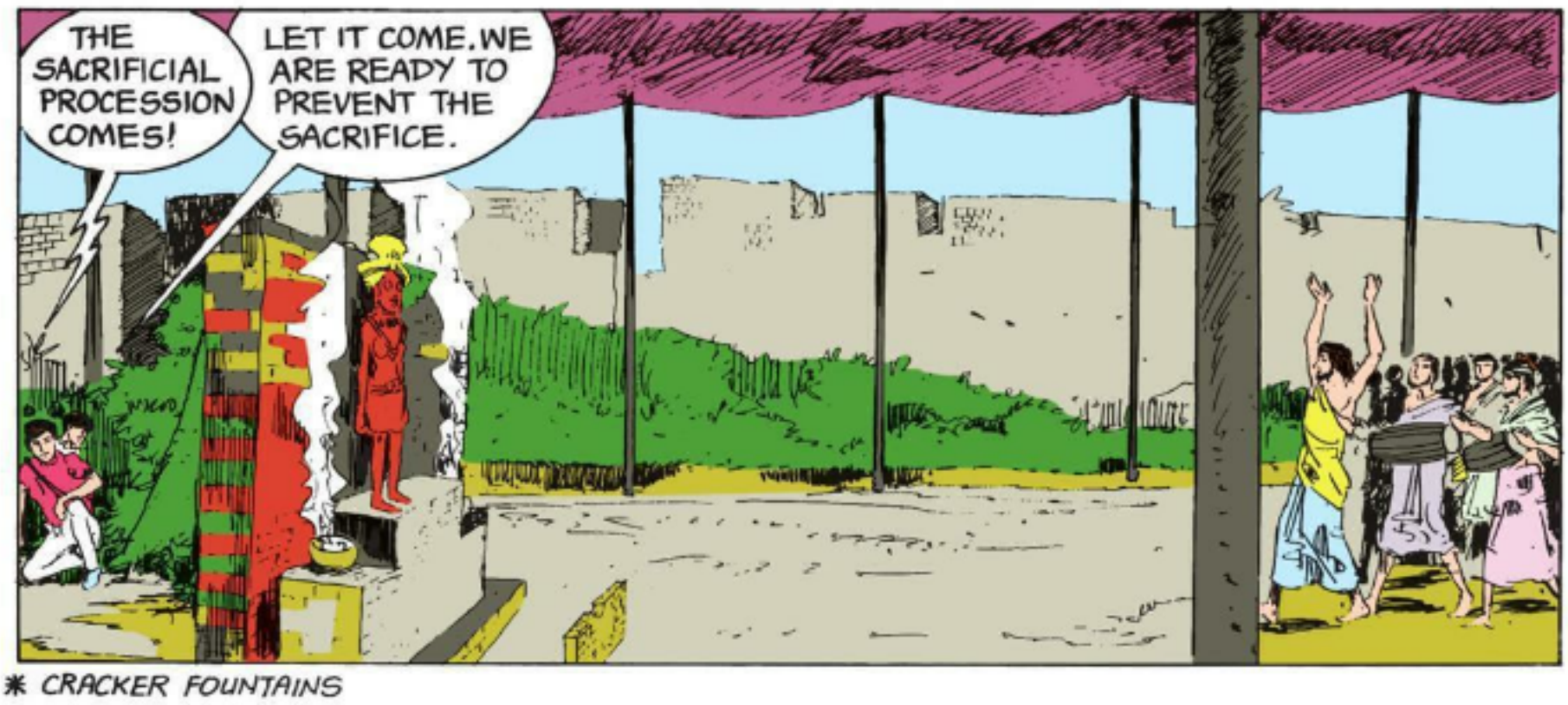

1990
1988
1966
1855
ZAP
2000


SOON IN THE INDUS VALLEY CITY—
HERE THEY COME!

HAVE YOU BROUGHT THE LADDER?
YES!
JUST DO AS I SAY EVEN IF YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY


I'LL PLACE A CRACKER BOMB HERE AND ANOTHER BOMB HERE TO BE ON THE SAFE SIDE, IN CASE THE FIRST DOESN'T BURST.
DURGA PLACE TWO FOUNTAINS* BEHIND THE IDOL.





* CRACKER FOUNTAINS

O MOTHER GODDESS, ACCEPT THIS HUMBLE OFFERING AND BLESS US WITH YOUR COMPASSION

SUDDENLY—

AH! SACRILEGE!

BANG

BANG

BANG

THEN—

OH! THE GODDESS IS ANGRY!

BANG

IN THE BUSHES—

BANG!

BANG

NOW I'LL SWITCH ON THE BULBS.

LOOK AT THE EYES OF THE GODDESS! HOW THEY BURN WITH ANGER!

O DEVOTEES, PAY HEED TO ME

LISTEN, THE GODDESS SPEAKS!

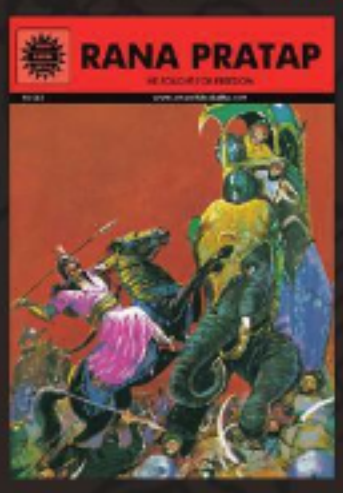
SPECIAL ISSUE

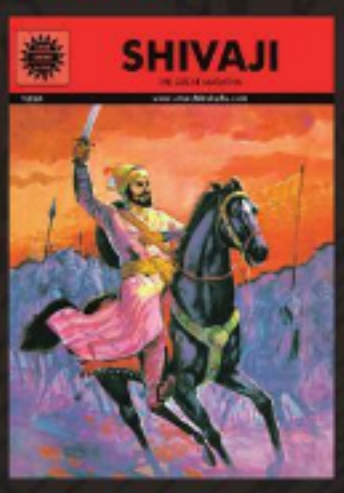
THE INDUS VALLEY ADVENTURE

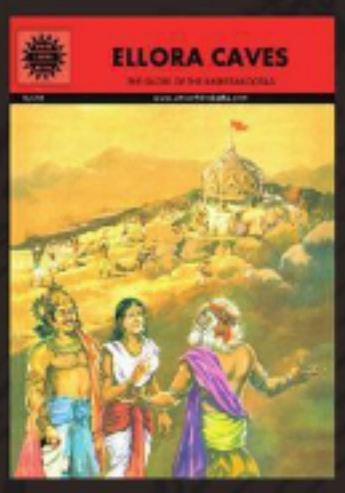
Vijay and Durga have no idea what they are in for when they accompany their amateur archaeologist grandfather to the excavation site of the Indus Valley civilisation.
Quite annoyed that they have to spend their holidays in a dusty dump they are hardly prepared for the amazing adventure that takes them back 3390 years to a world that they have only read about in their history books.
An adventure that involves a clay whistle, a boy called Vala and his pet goat.

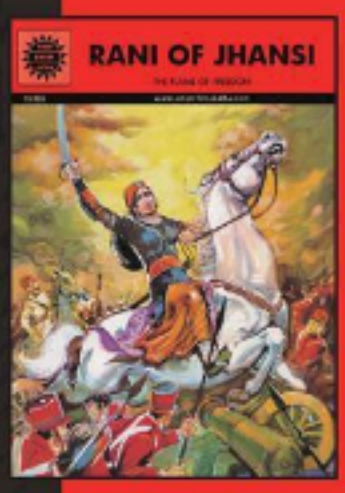
Amar Chitra Katha presents a very special story that brings to life one of the most ancient civilisations of the world.

OTHER ACK BRAVEHEARTS:

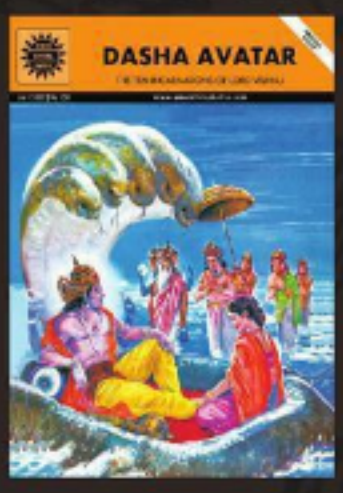


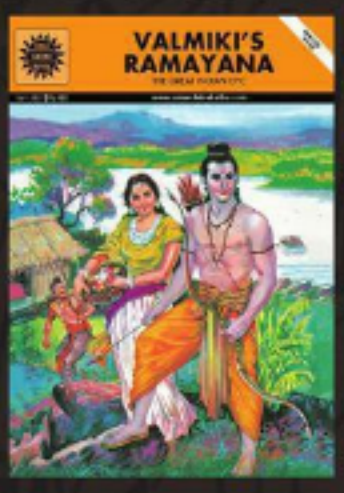


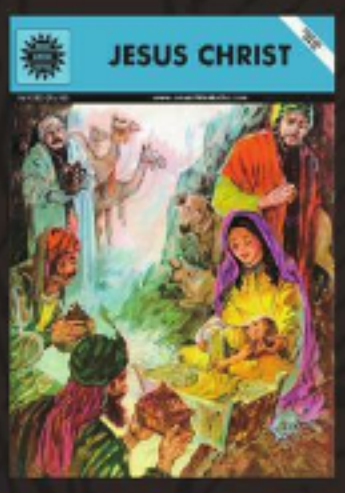


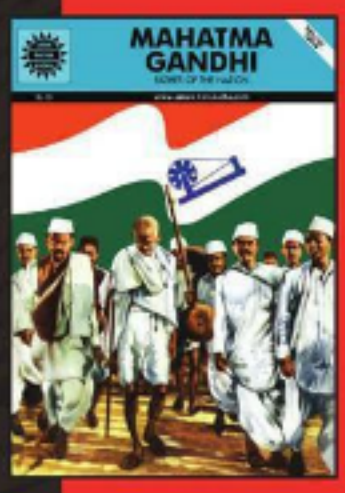


ALSO LOOK FOR SPECIAL ISSUES:









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